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**White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board
Regular Meeting and Final Budget Hearing Fiscal Year 21/22 Minutes
May 25, 2021 - 4pm**

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman McIntosh called to order the White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board Meeting at 4 pm. Member Bullis led in the pledge of allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present Chairman McIntosh, Ian Bullis, Marietta Henry

Board Members Present Via Zoom Bryane Goeringer

Board Member Absent Kurt Carson **Staff Present** Kyle Horvath, Errol Porter via Zoom

Legal Counsel McKinzie Hilton

Public Present via Zoom Scott Lee

Public Present in Person Wayne Cameron, George Chachas

3. Public Comment:

George Chachas referred to work the Reck Bros. did on the corner of Lyons and Sixth Street. ADA corner access was not addressed with the new construction, and he had questions concerning that. In reference to the May 23, 2021 meeting minutes, he commented that the breakdown of the grant information given by Director Horvath was not included in his packet of minutes. He requested that breakdown. On the list of bills to be paid, he keeps seeing a payment to the Public Employee Benefits Program for Doris Lawler. He wanted to know why the payment. On agenda items 4G and 4I there was nothing in the packet for the public to review. Mr. Chachas has yet to see reports for those who have received monies through Aid to Organization grants from the Tour and Rec Board. Last December 2020 Mr. Chachas asked what the Tour and Rec Board paid to the Ely Rotary for dues and has yet to receive an answer. Time called.

4. New Business:

A. Approval of Agenda, Including Removal of Agenda Items-Chairman McIntosh

Chairman McIntosh pulled Items 4I and 4J.

Motion: Member Henry moved to accept agenda excluding items 4I and 4J.

Motion Seconded: Member Bullis **Motion carried**

B. Approval of Minutes: April 27, 2021 4pm.

Motion: Member Henry moved to accept minutes of April 27, 2021.

Motion Seconded: Member Bullis

Motion carried

C. Review of the Financial Report

Direction Horvath went over the Room Tax Report giving amounts collected and disbursements made. He then went over the Comparison Report. He then reviewed the breakdown by lodging properties for room tax collection. The next item reviewed was the year-to-date budget. Overall, for income we are at about 88% with two more months to go.

D. Ratify Bills:

Motion: Member Henry made motion to pay check nos. 10308 through 10349 excluding check no. 10325 in the total amount of \$126,566.86.

Motion Seconded: Member Bullis

Motion carried

E. Approval to Pay Bill to Bath Lumber:

Chairman McIntosh advised she will abstain from this item since she has an interest in Bath Lumber.

Motion: Member Henry made motion to pay check no. 10325 to Bath Lumber in the amount of \$985.32.

Motion Seconded: Member Bullis

Motion carried with one abstention

F. Approval to Augment Budget for Fiscal Year 20/21:

Director Horvath said we were having a lot more income than what we had budgeted for but regarding our expenses, we were overspent in a couple of big items. The main one was capital outlay due to the check to Reck Bros. for the parking lot and community marketing because we have been doing significantly more than we thought during the pandemic. A lot of the augmentation is to shore up what we were budgeting for in the expenses so at the end of the year we are not showing we are overspending.

Motion: Member Bullis made motion to approve budget augmentation.

Motion Seconded: Member Goeringer

Motion carried

G. Budget Hearing for Fiscal Year 21/22

At 4:30 pm, Chairman McIntosh opened the public hearing for the budget hearing for fiscal year 21/22.

Public Comment:

Mr. Chachas said the information given to him at the beginning of the meeting should have been made available three days prior to the meeting. Without having the chance to look at it, it is not fair to make a comment when you do not know what is up.

Chairman McIntosh asked for any more public comment. Hearing none, public comment was closed.

Director Horvath went over the proposed budget for fiscal year 21/22, going over the line items that were affected from last year to this year's budget regarding income and expense. The proposed budget shows an increase in distributions to the various entities.

Chairman McIntosh said she would like to request an audit as far as our Mt. Wheeler bills are concerned.

Public Comment:

Mr. Chachas inquired about the internet connection asking if a flat fee was paid or do they charge by time. He was told a flat fee is paid for the convention center facility and the electronic sign at Great Basin Highway. Mr. Chachas asked what the recommended increase was for the employees. Chairman McIntosh said the employees will have an hourly increase, the Director will have an increase and they are increasing the hours of the current maintenance person bringing that person up to 30 hours. Mr. Chachas asked the percentage of increase. The Director said it is six percent. It covers not only pay increases for the employees but more hours for the employees that were part time.

Chairman McIntosh asked for any more public comment. Hearing none, public comment and the public hearing was closed.

H. Approval of Budget for Fiscal Year 21/22:

Motion: Member Bullis made a motion to approve the budget for fiscal year 21/22 as presented.

Motion Seconded: Member Goeringer

Motion carried

I. Approval of the Interlocal Agreement for HR Services with the County:

This item was pulled from the agenda.

J. Volunteer Services Agreement 2021-2022 Between Tour and Rec Board and the Chamber of Commerce:

This item was pulled from the agenda.

K. Ski Resort Update:

Member Bullis read an excerpt from a more comprehensive report outlining the project, the timeline, the proposition of a ski in/ski out casino and lodging, profitability, and investment. He gave a brief history on the consultant Tim Cohee. Member Bullis, Kyle Horvath and Bill Wolf are going to be identifying prospective investors. Member Bullis said the basic investment to get things started is fifty to seventy million dollars.

L. Update on All Class Reunion and Vietnam Traveling Wall:

Director Horvath showed a schedule of events for the Fourth of July/All Class Reunion weekend. Locals have been working on getting the traveling wall to come to White Pine County; we are working with them to create a poster as well as the program pamphlet. We are working on putting together a place mat with all the events shown for the

weekend to be distributed to all restaurants. People are encouraged to volunteer for security at the wall over the Fourth of July weekend.

M. Update on Progress of Travel NV Grants:

Director Horvath gave an update on all the Travel NV grants. There was another grant for Nevada magazine full page ad. We put all the mountain bike content in that ad. We also got a grant for mountain bike marketing blitz. Finally, we also got a grant for special events marketing which includes all the posters that we have been designing for all the upcoming events as well as the horse race blitz.

N. Update on Public Art; Mural Refreshing and New Murals to be Done:

Director Horvath said two murals were refreshed – the ghost mural and Basque sheep herder mural. We are working with the town on Baker on a new mural. We have been working with the town of McGill trying to come up with locations and topics for their mural. He talked about several being developed in downtown Ely. In the budget for next year \$15,000 has been targeted for more public art. The goal is to refresh two murals every year and put at least one new mural in.

O. Executive Director's Report: a. Marketing; b. Events; c. Facilities

Errol Porter spoke about social media, specifically Facebook, Instagram, and twitter. Targeted digital dealt with display targeting, i.e., search retargeting, search engine marketing and targeted Youtube ads. He gave the top five pages visited on the website and upcoming calendar events.

Director Horvath gave an update on the facilities/technology upgrades. Capital improvement and outdoor recreation grants have been opened. The deadline is June 11. The trail kiosk is up. Maps are done and printed. Outdoor Nevada, a PBS publication, is going to shoot an entire episode on disc golf here in Ely. Kyle is working with IMBA and their podcast. He was invited to do a podcast re: trail development.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Board Member Reports: Member Henry gave a report on the upcoming horse races to be held August 20, 21 and 22. Ninety-one stalls are reserved. Member Goeringer is working on another four miles of trail. He is working with the Forest Service to repurpose Fears, Tears and Beers racecourse so we can handle more participants.

B. Agenda Item(s) for Next Board Meeting

MOU drawn up with the White Pine Museum. Approval of the Interlocal Agreement for HR services with the County. Volunteer Services Agreement 2021-2022 between Tour and Rec Board and the Chamber of Commerce. Written update on the strategic plan. Policy manual update.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Wayne Cameron spoke saying Renaissance Village was host to the Pony Express Territory meeting. Election of officers was held, and Kyle Horvath is the new Vice President.

George Chachas said for the last several months he has given requests for public information, and he has yet to receive it. He is still concerned that the center walkway was not put back in the parking area. He has not seen anything regarding the community choir bringing back the money given for pigeon control. He has asked about the Nevada Northern Railway and their lack of reports of how they are spending the room tax money they receive. He has also asked how the money given to the golf course has been used. He has asked about the former director Mr. Spear whether he had a license, a commercial location, home occupation. He has given the Board photos of different businesses in the community reference whether they have proper licensing and are collecting room tax. He said he did not hear anything referencing pulling their support for the Heritage Park. You do not put a park next to a truck stop. The Board needs to make a stand referencing withdrawing. Time called.

7. Chairman McIntosh called for adjournment at 5:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Judi Bourbeau

Minutes approved by:


Name _____ Date June 22, 2021