



Special Meeting

National High School Rodeo Association

Mr. James Higgenbotham, Executive Director

Discussion: Exploring the Option for the Rodeo Association to make Gillette, WY (CAM-PLEX) a Permanent Home

CCPLB MEETING MINUTES: February 16, 2022

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Darin Edmonds, Laura Chapman, Heidi Gross, Charlene Camblin, Chuck Land, Troy Allee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Skyler Pownall

LEGAL COUNSEL: Absent

STAFF: Pam Altenberg, ReNae Keuck, Heather Kuhrt, Jeff Esposito, Mikenzie Ochs, Jason Gearhart, Louis Martell, Will Hastreiter, Tamara Keierleber, Adam Schuff, Keith Howard, Paul Storiato, Jimmy Slattery, Daniel Olsen, Ty Torres

STAFF ABSENT:

GUESTS: Mr. James Higgenbotham, *NHSRA Executive Director*, Nathan McLeland *City Council Liaison*, Colleen Faber *Campbell County Commissioner*, Don Hamm *Campbell County Commissioner*, Liz Edwards *Campbell County Fair*, Jon Gallardo *Gillette News Record*, Mo Schwartz *Public*, , Greg Schreurs *City Council*, Doug Camblin *Public*, Jeff Bender *Campbell County Fire Department*, J.R. Fox *Campbell County Fire Department*, Mark Anderson *Gillette College* , Ivy McGowen-Castleberry *Campbell County Public Health*, Stephanie Murray *Campbell County Convention and Visitors Bureau*, Dan Barks *Former CAM-PLEX General Manager*, Kelly Stone *DC Land and Cattle Co., LLC.*, Rusty Bell *Campbell County Commissioner*, Mike Robbins *Gillette Gun Club*, Zane and Stacey Thar Goven's *Farm and Ranch*, Michelle Henderson *City of Gillette Finance*, Hugh Cook *Wyoming Public Radio – Northeast Reporter*, Hyun Kim *City of Gillette Administrator*, Carol Seeger *Campbell County Administrative Director*, Ronda Boller *Public*, Jake Goodrick *Gillette News Record*, Christen Burdette *Ramada Plaza*, Lulu Slattery *Public*, Lexi Hamm *Public*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Campbell County Public Land Board Meeting was held on February 16, 2022, at CAM-PLEX. The meeting began at 1:06 PM. The meeting was presided over by Chairman Darin Edmonds.

2. APPROVAL OF CCPLB AGENDA

A. To approve the February 16, 2022, Agenda as presented

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Moved: Ms. Camblin

Second: Mr. Land

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

3. PURPOSE OF MEETING

A. Discussion with National High School Rodeo Association – Mr. James Higgenbotham

- Mr. Edmonds advised the group this discussion was an informative and open forum for the purpose of exploring the option for the rodeo association to make Gillette, WY (CAM-PLEX) a permanent home. Economic Impact results from hosting the NHSFR in 2016 were: In 7 days this event brought 11,933 visitors to our community resulting in \$8.7M direct expenditures, \$369K in Wyoming State Sales Tax, \$108K in Gillette Taxes, \$10.1M in total expenditures and, of that, \$2.6M was spent on food and dining after subtraction of gratuities and \$1.6M on lodging. The National Junior High School Rodeo Event consists of 2/3rd of the number of contestants competing in the National High School Rodeo Event which would adjust the amount of economic impact by those amounts. Mr. Edmonds introduced guest speaker Mr. James Higgenbotham, Executive Director, National High School Rodeo Association. Mr. Higgenbotham stated, “The National Rodeo Association is moving forward in holding National Events in a controlled environment facility (covered arenas) which will ensure all competitors have an equal playing field regardless of weather. As of now, 2 or 3 other facilities are interested in possibly providing indoor arena accommodations for hosting future National Rodeos. CAM-PLEX has 1,100 acres providing an uncrowded environment as well as having adequate camping sites to accommodate lodging for RV's and Motor Coach's. The Association enjoys CAM-PLEX's facilities and, even more so, Campbell County's people and community. The Rodeo Association would like to talk about making a long-term commitment for hosting future rodeos considering interested facilities have accommodations of an indoor arena”. Colleen Faber, Campbell County Commissioner, asked how far out the NHSRA is contracted for future rodeos. Mr. Higgenbotham replied the NHSRA is currently contracted through 2029. 2 of those years the rodeo will be hosted in Gillette, WY. Rusty Bell, Campbell County Commissioner, asked Mr. Higgenbotham if any specific specifications for indoor facilities are required. Mr. Higgenbotham responded they are looking for 2 main arenas (timed event and rough stock events) to be held together under 1 arena. The Rodeo Association suggests long arenas seating for 5,000 people on one side and the other arena seating 7,300 people with seating on both sides. Arena sizes of 125' x 250' is ideal for timed events. Cutting and rein cow horse events could be held in one, or separate, arenas. Ms. Faber inquired about opportunities for corporate sponsorships or NHSRA buy in for monetary purposes. Mr. Higgenbotham replied no sponsorships or monetary buy in plans are currently in place. NHSFR specification for bid process is to look at least 4 years in advance and estimated groundwork starting in 2025/2026. Mr. Del Shelstad, Campbell County Commissioner, feels like this request could be a do-able thing, but will have to look at costs of investment and see how many years the

investment will need to be spread out. This building construction would allow future multi-events to be held in addition to the NHSRA events. Current facilities will be analyzed in seeing if renovation/remodeling is an option. Copies of minimum specifications/requirements are available for anyone who would like to review at the CAM-PLEX Office and/or website. Mr. Edmonds noted no commitment has been made and planning research will continue to take place.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

MINUTES PREPARED BY

Pam Altenberg, February 17, 2022

MINUTES APPROVED BY

SECRETARY:

[Campbell County Public Land Board]

Charlene Camblin 3/10/22
(Signature & Date) Charlene Camblin, CCPLB Secretary