

SWEETWATER COUNTY EVENTS COMPLEX

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

January 28, 2020

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approvals of November 19, 2019 Meeting Board Minutes
5. **Election of Officers**
6. **Conflict of Interest Statement**
7. Financial Report
8. Approval of Checks:
 - 1st Bank Checks: 57095 – 57136
 - 1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5765 – 5843
 - Commerce Bank Checks: 1321 – 1345
 - Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 24209 – 24339
9. Public Comment
10. Presentations
11. Listing of February 2020 Events
 - Fair Board Meeting schedule
12. Correspondence
13. Old Business
 - Specific Purpose Tax Discussion
 - Event Recruitment
 - Foundation Update
14. New Business
 - Renovation Design Videos
 - Water Metering Station & MOU with City of Rock Springs
15. Closing Comments
 - Staff: Executive Director
 - Board: Open Forum for Board Comments
 - Commissioner Comments
16. Executive Session, if needed.
17. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting is February 25, 2020

**Sweetwater County Events Complex
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
January 28, 2020**

Call to Order:

Vice-Chairperson Harris called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Present: Faith Harris, Paul Zancanella, Kaye Goicolea, Bob Spicer, Rob Zotti and Donald Palleson

Absent: Janet Hartford and Roger Torgersen

Also present: Larry Lloyd, Robert Perry, Lena Warren, Tamara Musgrove, Drew Dunn and Erika Koshar

Approval of Agenda:

Trustee Zotti moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Spicer. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Goicolea moved to approve the November 19, 2019, board minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Zancanella and passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

- **Chairperson** – Trustee Zotti moved to nominate Bob Spicer as the Chairperson. Trustee Harris Seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- **Vice-Chairperson** – Trustee Goicolea moved to nominate Rob Zotti as the Vice-Chairperson. Trustee Zancanella seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- **Secretary** – Trustee Spicer moved to nominate Faith Harris as the Secretary. Trustee Goicolea seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- **Treasurer** – Trustee Zancanella moved to nominate Kaye Goicolea as the Treasurer. Trustee Zotti seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Conflict of Interest Statement

Signed by all board members in attendance.

Financial Report:

Cash Balance, January 1, 2020	\$910,383
Add Receipts	\$148,267
Less Expenditures	\$167,141
Cash Balance, January 28, 2020	<u>\$891,509</u>

Trustee Harris moved to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Trustee Zotti and passed unanimously.

Approval of Checks:

Motion to approve-

1st Bank Checks: 57095 - 57136

1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5765 – 5843

Commerce Bank Checks: 1321 - 1345

Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 24209 - 24339

Trustee Zotti moved to approve all checks as presented. Motion seconded by Trustee Harris. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Presentations:

None.

Listing of Events:

Erika Koshar reviewed the February 2020 events.

Correspondence:

None.

Old Business:

Specific Purpose Tax Discussion – Director Lloyd noted a meeting with the County Commission in which we discussed the Exhibit Hall renovations presented for the 6th penny tax possibility. A video rendition of the Exhibit Hall was shown to the Board and discussed as it completed.

Commissioner Lloyd provided insight as to the process going on currently. They hope to have the percentage to divvy out on the 6th cent projects by end of meeting on Tuesday.

Director Lloyd noted that while it is difficult to manage the 6th cent projects, those on vote should also include projects like the Events Complex which serves the entire community, not only individual municipalities. We are the only recreational/quality of life project on the list.

Larry also presented the gazebo design generated by the SEC Foundation. The architecture and design aesthetic tie in perfectly with the Exhibit Hall renovation.

Trustee Spicer inquired if we are comfortable with the \$11M request from the County. Director Lloyd noted that if he thought it would pass with the Commission and public, he would have done more than about \$17M.

Event Recruitment – Lena Warren noted that the Escapees group is extremely excited for the upcoming rally. Their reservations have surpassed the original request of 600 spaces and have adjusted to over 700 thus far.

The Newmar RV group has contacted us regarding their vendor show, hoping to add some local vendors.

Tiffin RV Rally has already called to look for future dates in our area. The biggest reason is the facility and great people to work with.

Foundation Update – Lena Warren noted that the Bootlegger’s Bash will take place on February 21st. Tickets are now available online with three different sampler ticket options. We are looking forward to another successful event.

New Business:

Renovation Design Video – Shown previously in Specific Use Tax Discussion.

Water Metering Station & MOU with City of Rock Springs – Director Lloyd noted that historically, we’ve had a good general working relationship with the City of Rock Springs. In recent years, agreements of operation are required to continue working together. This is required to create a partnership without further arguments in the future. We’ve taken care of the metering station for approximately 20 years and are looking to generate a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the usage, maintenance and fees.

It was noted that the Golf Course has requested a fence be in place around the White Mountain Campground. As we have large events coming in, it is a dis-service to the restaurant and the golf course to block access from our campground. We are looking at costs for fencing, but do not agree with the principle.

All in all, we will continue conversations with the Parks & Recreation Department and City of Rock Springs.

We met with the County Commission in regards to the NHSFR moving away from outside rodeo arenas. The organization will be selecting future properties based on the size and availability of indoor rodeo grounds. Based on the enormous economic impact provided by NHSFR, we need to continue reviewing option to build our own grandstand Indoor Arena. Funding through the 6th penny option is not available due to the tax cap set by the County Commission. In looking at other funding options, a state-wide grant may be a possibility (similar to our previous grant funds). If this event goes away, it will be a detriment in tax revenue and national recognition. Another possibility for funding is for Sweetwater County, City of Rock Springs and City of Green River to allocate some of the live horse racing/off-track betting earned annually to have a revenue stream to pay off debt.

Right now, there are facilities in the region that are dwarfing our Indoor Arena. If we want to stay competitive in equestrian events, we need to move forward with adding onto our current Indoor Arena.

Trustee Zotti additionally noted that with Eugene Joyce with Wyoming Horse Racing has already approached the municipalities for a portion of the horse racing revenues distributed. We will want

to watch how it is approached to the City in order avoid everyone putting in their requests for the same funds.

Closing Comments

Executive Director: We need to prepare for the hard economic times in our future so that the bottom doesn't fall out on this community.

Board Members: Trustee Spicer inquired as to the current status of the new water well on the back of the property. Director Lloyd noted that when the driller installed the pipe into the ground, it was damaged and the hole was determined to be unusable. We have an agreement with the same driller to install a new well, within the same water pool. The old site will be closed and we will move 32 feet to the north to set up a new water source. The pipe has been ordered and water should be flowing by this summer.

Commissioner Lloyd: Roy wanted to reiterate the status of our economy. While we do not have a master plan for the County, it is definitely something we need to start building. Our vision may change through elections, but having a vision for the area can be funded as such.

For the 6th penny, he (along with the Commission) is adamant to maintain the \$80M total for voting purposes.

Adjournment:

Trustee Zotti moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Zancanella seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Spicer, Chairman

Faith Harris, Secretary