

**SWEETWATER COUNTY EVENTS COMPLEX**

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**April 28, 2020 (virtual)**

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approvals of March 24, 2020 Meeting Board Minutes
5. Financial Report
6. Approval of Checks:
  - 1st Bank Checks: 57173 – 57183
  - 1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5919 – 5949
  - Commerce Bank Checks: 1364 – 1371
  - Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 24440 – 24483
7. Public Comment
8. Presentations
9. Listing of May 2020 Events
10. Correspondence
11. Old Business
  - Water Metering Station & MOU with City of Rock Springs
  - County Commission Budget Amendment Update
  - COVID-19 Impacts
    - Financial
    - Scheduled Events
12. New Business
  - Approval for Application for Deposit of Public Funds
  - Lease Agreement Change
  - FY2020 Commission Loan
  - FY 2021 Budget
  - Live Horse Racing
  - Fair 2020
13. Closing Comments
  - Staff: Executive Director
  - Board: Open Forum for Board Comments
  - Commissioner Comments
14. Executive Session, if needed.
15. Adjournment

\*Next Board Meeting is May 28, 2020\*

**Sweetwater County Events Complex  
Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
April 28, 2020 (virtual meeting)**

**Call to Order:**

Chairperson Spicer called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Faith Harris, Paul Zancanella, Janet Hartford, Roger Torgersen, Bob Spicer Kaye Goicolea, and Rob Zotti.

Absent: Donald Palleson

Also present: Larry Lloyd, Kandi Pendleton and Erika Koshar

**Approval of Agenda:**

Trustee Hartford moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Zancanella. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Harris moved to approve the March 24, 2020, board minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Torgersen and passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:**

<b>Cash Balance, April 1, 2020</b>	<b>\$351,049</b>
Add Receipts	\$84,912
Less Expenditures	\$172,845
 <b>Cash Balance, April 28, 2020</b>	 <b><u>\$263,116</u></b>

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

**Approval of Checks:**

Motion to approve-

    1st Bank Checks: 57173 - 57183

    1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5919 – 5949

    Commerce Bank Checks: 1634 - 1371

    Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 24440 – 24483

Trustee Hartford 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 May 2020 events.

**Correspondence:**

None.

**Old Business:**

*Water Metering Station & MOU with City of Rock Springs* – Trustee Zotti noted that the MOU sent to the Board earlier this week was written by the Rock Springs City Attorney and ready for changes by SEC. Director Lloyd will sign this version if approved by the Board; however, there is a concern for paying the utilities each year.

Trustee Harris indicated she had not seen the email sent with the MOU earlier in the week & would like the agreements to be sent with the Board packet each month. Kandi Pendleton made a note for the future.

Trustee Goicolea suggested the utility bills be paid by each entity on alternating years.

Trustee Spicer inquired if there will be a line of communication for future maintenance on the building. Trustee Zotti additionally noted that each party should discuss projects beforehand, except for emergencies, to avoid post repair arguments. Director Lloyd noted that our conversations will begin with itemized repairs and go from there. Trustee Zotti suggested discussing future projects with the RS Water Department.

*County Commission Budget Amendment Update* – Chairperson Spicer read Budget Amendment #2020-1 allocate the additional monies received from Sweetwater County.

Trustee Zotti moved to approve resolution #2020-1 as presented. Motion seconded by Trustee Harris. Motion passed unanimously.

*COVID-19* – As of the Board meeting, 36 events had canceled, including the recent addition of the Home & Garden Show. The 2020 Fair is listed, depending on what the Board decides today. Trustee Zancanella inquired if the Yeti barrel races will continue for Mother's Day weekend. Pendleton noted that the promotor is waiting to hear what will happen with Wyoming State requirements and will make a decision to move to Memorial Weekend after the next announcement. Director Lloyd noted that the list of canceled events is expected to grow.

Today, the Sweetwater County Commission approved a \$200,000 loan to cover payroll over the next couple of months. Trustee Zotti inquired as to how far off our budget expectation. Pendleton indicated SEC is approximately \$600,000 below expected budget for FY2020. Zotti further asked if SEC staff had explored the any options with the \$1.25 billion to be received by the State of Wyoming. Director Lloyd noted that he has had many conversations with the State, but unless Sweetwater County and the cities of Rock Springs & Green River make a presence in Legislature,

we will not be included in distribution. He further noted that SEC does not have the heavy cash reserves of the municipalities. He'd like to see those with rainy day funds begin to discuss opening the vault as it is now "raining" in our community.

Pendleton noted that it is not just an SEC loss, but we can expect a \$5 Million economic impact loss to the community.

Commissioner Lloyd requested a list of canceled events and financial impact to share with the rest of the Board. Pendleton agreed and will email him the full updated list.

Pendleton additional explained the impacts at the Events Complex thus far

- 54 employees will not be hired for the summer season – hiring freeze.
- All critical projects are on hold
- Maintenance on hold other than cleaning
- Local community/smaller businesses impacted
  - We are not purchasing project pieces from businesses like Winnelson and Codale Electric – places who normally have a large impact from the Events Complex.

Commissioner Lloyd mentioned that our County is facing a perfect storm and looking at a running deficit of approximately \$3M.

Pendleton noted that we have a couple events on our calendar that are still happening:

- Sweetwater Speedway – Stock Car Races
- World Series Team Roping
- Royal Crown Futurity Barrel Race

### **New Business:**

Approval for Application for Deposit of Public Funds – Erika Koshar indicated that SEC received applications for public funds from RSNB Bank, Commerce Bank and First Bank. These applications must be approved annually to continue doing business with the institutions.

Trustee Harris moved to approve the applications from RSNB Bank, Commerce Bank and First Bank as presented. Motion seconded by Trustee Zancanella. Motion passed unanimously.

Lease Agreement Change – Kandi Pendleton noted that due to multitude of reasons, we were unable to obtain the Chevy Tahoe approved for purchase with the equipment leases last Fall. Therefore, we have canceled the order and request a release of funds from the escrow account for the May lease payment.

FY2020 Commission Loan – The Sweetwater County Board of Commissioners approved a loan of \$200,000 to be paid back November 1<sup>st</sup> once we receive the mil levy payment.

Trustee Spicer commended the presentation to the Commission and indicated this is not an addition to our budget but will be repaid back to the County next fiscal year.

FY 2021 Budget – The final budget was due on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Director Lloyd and Pendleton noted that SEC cut as much as we could from the annual request. The only increase can be seen in the employee benefits

and mil levy request. The capital projects included in the request consist of the two outstanding items which are carrying over fiscal years, the well and the exhibit hall roof. Revenue generation has significantly decreased, as well as the FY20 cash carry over. While we normally can generate 50% of our own revenue, for FY21 we anticipate receiving 20-25% of our own funding and will need the remainder to come from the County (mil levy). Pendleton noted that our ability to generate any revenue this summer is scarce.

Trustee Harris inquired about the 6<sup>th</sup> penny discussions. Director Lloyd indicated that he expects the ballot measure to go by the wayside and resume talks in the Fall or Spring of next year. Commissioner Lloyd noted that some municipalities, like Green River, would like to move forward with the planning. Trustee Zotti noted that we are better off to wait as many households and businesses are cutting budgets – we don't need to ask for more taxes at this point. Trustee Torgersen added that two years is a long time to wait for additional discussions if the ballot fails this November.

Live Horse Racing – Kandi Pendleton noted that Eugene Joyce of Wyoming Downs horse racing will meet with the Pari-Mutual Commission on May 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of reducing the number of live horse races required by the State to continue historic horse race betting. A temporary variance. He additionally has concerns in regard to the Rock Springs track as his equipment is all in Gillette, our jockey room doesn't have running water and their racers will be travelling back and forth across the state. As such, he'd like to run the rest of the live horse racing season in Gillette.

Trustee Torgersen suggested renting a sanitation trailer for hand washing. He and Trustee Zancanella expressed their disdain for the idea of reducing race dates and live horse racing leaving Rock Springs.

Kandi Pendleton noted that live horse racing doesn't generate large funds for the Events Complex and with our reduced staff for the season, it may be better for horse racing to stay in Gillette for 2020.

The Board requested options to keep live horse racing at the Events Complex.

Director Lloyd noted that while the County and Cities both receive monies from the betting facilities that can run due to our live racing events, the Events Complex does not receive funds. Trustee Zotti noted that SEC should work towards changing the statute so that funds will return to the racing facilities.

Trustee Harris inquired if discussions were still in place to receive monies from the municipalities – Director Lloyd noted that it did not proceed further than the initial conversations.

Director Lloyd and Kandi Pendleton agreed to continue discussions with Eugene Joyce regarding the upcoming season.

Fair 2020 – Director Lloyd noted that 4-H events will occur in 2020, either live or virtually. We must take care of the impacted kids and their projects. However, the rest of the event will not take place this year.

Trustee Harris questioned if the carnival has canceled for this year. Director Lloyd noted that while they have not canceled, he understands that they cannot travel to our area without a gathering of people.

SEC is moving forward to plan the 4-H horse, livestock and static event and will make a decision on virtual versus live until June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Lloyd noted that his kids' 4-H club has decreased and there will probably be less animals this year as many chose not to take the risk that it may be canceled. He further anticipates that

Sweetwater County will come out to support the kids and their projects no matter how they are presented. Communities rally in these times.

**Closing Comments**

*Executive Director:* None.

*Board Members:* None.

*Commissioner Lloyd:* None.

**Adjournment:**

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

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Bob Spicer, Chairman

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Faith Harris, Secretary