

White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 25, 2016
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Bristlecone Convention Center - White Pine Room

Members Present: Ernie Flangas
Jacki Hansen
Lorraine Clark
Bruce Setterstrom
Richard Howe

Staff Present: Ed Spear
Meg Rhoades

Members Absent: None

Public Present: Melody Van Camp
Aida Blankenship
Geri Wopshall
Jolene Gardner

George Chachas

Ernie Flangas called to order the meeting of the White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board at 10:00 a.m. on February 25, 2016 at the White Pine Room at the Bristlecone Convention Center. Lorraine Clark led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Public Comment: Melody Van Camp introduced Aida Blankenship. Aida stated that she is with Organized Karma a political consulting firm that is focusing on the Parks & Recreation maintenance backlog. She stated that she thinks signage for the park is important. George Chachas stated that he came to pick up a packet and a copy wasn't ready. He stated he has asked for a list of conventions in the last five years and a list of Ed Spear's Bonuses for the last five years and hasn't received them.

II. New Business:

1. Approval for Board Members and Staff to Attend Rural Round Up April 13-15, 2016: Chairman Ernie Flangas explained that Rural Round Up is a great opportunity to network and learn new ways to market the community. Lorraine Clark expressed interest in attending as did Mr. Flangas. Bruce Setterstrom stated that he felt two board members would be enough. Bruce asked how many staff members we wanted to send and Ed Spear explained that traditionally we send two board members and two staff member however this year he is planning on attending the Pony Express Territory meeting but is willing go just to the meeting.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To send two Board members and two staff members, Ernie Flangas and Lorraine Clark, and leave it up Ed on the staff members to the 2016 Rural Round Up.

Lorraine Clark stated that she thinks it is important for Ed to be at the Pony Express Territory Meeting and Ed responded that he would send Lori Drew and Meg Rhoades as the two staff members and just go down for the meeting and come back.

Motion seconded. Lorraine Clark

Ernie reiterated that he felt it should be left open for Ed Spear to attend the Territory meeting. Bruce Setterstrom stated that he was leaving it up to Ed to determine the two staff members. He said he felt we should start to limit some of our travel. Mr. Howe stated that he thought it would be okay for Ed to go for just the meeting. Mr. Setterstrom stated that his concern was the per diem and the mileage. He asked if the staff members would ride together and the two board members would ride together. He stated that he would agree for all three staff members to go if they were all riding in the same vehicle.

unanimously approved motion carried

2. Approval to Attend Spotlight on the Southwest April 17-19, 2016: Ed Spear explained that Spotlight is put on by Mirage tours and that he stopped attending this show because the number of tour operators attending was not high enough. This year the list has increased considerably and he felt it would be a good show to attend. Jacki Hansen stated that she felt it sounded like a good opportunity. Mr. Setterstrom said in his opinion that he felt that it was more important to concentrate on individuals rather than bus groups. He didn't think they were scheduling groups to come to Ely. Lorraine, Ernie and Jacki all disagreed. Lorraine explained that tour operators plan their tours a year or further out. She explained that the operators she met with at Governor's Conference were looking for new venues. Bruce stated that his opinion was that the individual market was more important. Richard Howe said he sees the value of marketing to larger groups. He feels a close show such as this one in Las Vegas would be money well spent.

Motion: Richard Howe. To approve to have one person attend the Spotlight on the Southwest in Las Vegas April 17-19, 2016

Motion seconded. Bruce Setterstrom. **unanimously approved motion carried**

3. Reimburse RTC \$19,000.00 for Paving the West Side of Sixth Street Between Lyons Avenue and the Alley: Richard Howe stated that he had researched the process that was followed in determining who should pay for the repaving a portion of Sixth Street in front of the convention center and that all of the proper channels were used. The motion was made and approved by the RTC, the City of Ely, White Pine County Commission and the Tour & Recreation Board and that no further action on this item was needed. He stated that he felt the portion the Tour & Recreation Board paid was more than adequate. George Chachas stated that this item never went before the City of Ely to which Mr. Setterstrom replied that it did go in front of the council, that he voted on it as did the other boards involved. He felt to have the item come back up was a disgrace, that someone would try to change the mind of four boards was a disgrace. Mr. Chachas asked what was wrong with the street and Mr. Setterstrom explained that the convention center's responsibility was only 18 inches from the curb. Ernie Flangas explained that the City had to tear up a large portion of the street to repair a water line. Mr. Setterstrom said that he looked at the street and proposed repairs, was told what it would look like if the street was not repaired and then made the motion to approve. Ed Spear explained that the line had broken three times. Mr. Howe read a letter from Wayne Cameron that stated as the RTC Chairman, the RTC voted on approved to repair the

street and that it was sad that certain individuals don't appreciate entities working together.

Motion: Died for lack of motion

4. Review and Discussion of NRS 244A.611 regarding requirement for Board to select a

Board Treasurer: Ed Spear explained that for Jacki Hansen to be the Board treasurer a \$5,000.00 bond would have to be issued. The opinion of the Board attorney was that it did not have to be a Board member and could be a staff member. Jacki and Lorraine Clark both stated that they felt if it did not need to be a Board member that a staff member should be appointed and that they would both be willing to review the bills as well before they were sent.

5. Acceptance of resignation of office of Treasurer by Board Member Hansen limited to office of Treasurer; Member Hansen will remain in service on the Board as Vice Chairman:

Motion: Richard Howe. To accept the resignation of office of Treasurer by Board Member Hansen limited to office of Treasurer; Member Hansen will remain in service on the Board as Vice Chairman

Motion seconded. Lorraine Clark. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

6. Election and appointment of Lori Drew to the Office of Treasurer by Board pursuant to NRS 244A.611:

Ed explained that Lori's job description included Board Secretary. He explained that we maintain the proper segregation of duties and that POOL PACT would cover her as the Board Treasurer so there would be no need for an additional bond to be obtained.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To appoint Lori Drew to the office of Treasurer.

Motion seconded. Jacki Hansen. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

7. Approval to Attend the Adventure + Gear Fest April 8-9, 2016 in Salt Lake City, Utah:

Bruce Setterstrom explained that he felt this was a great show for us to hand out packets to get individuals to come to Ely. Ed Spear explained that we have made arrangements to take the Red Solo Cup bathtub to this show and that Bruce and Pat Setterstrom and the Rice family would man the booth. This show takes place over Volunteer Appreciation so no staff will be going.

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To attend the Adventure and Gear Fest April 7-9, 2016 in Salt Lake City, UT not to exceed \$3000.00.

Motion seconded. Richard Howe. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

8. Approval to Attend the Broadacres Swap Meet Summer of 2016 in North Las Vegas,

Nevada: Ed Spear explained that the item was put on the agenda incorrectly and will be on the next agenda.

III. Old Business

1. White Pine Golf Course Update: Lorraine Clark reported that the group had not met. Bruce reported that he has put the .5% room tax increase on the City's agenda and that it will be worded as an outdoor recreation tax. Richard Howe stated that the tax was presented as a tax for the golf course and that it would not be right to change the wording on the motion to the city. He was informed that the Tourism & Recreation Board passed the recommendation as an outdoor recreational tax. He apologized and said that he was misinformed on the original motion.

2. Approval of January 5, 2016 Meeting Minutes and January 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To approve the January 5, and the January 21, 2016 meeting minutes.

Motion seconded. Jacki Hansen. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

3. Review of the Financial Report: Ed Spear explained that there has been a decline in room tax, however even if that trend continues we will still be above projected. He explained that once again postage was higher than originally budgeted due to the fact that we are still sending out a large number of information requests. Bruce asked why the room tax has gone down while the ridership of the train has gone up. Ed explained that if the hotels drop their room rate it will affect that. It is not required for them to report the number of rooms.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To accept financial report as presented.

Motion seconded. Jacki Hansen. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

4. Approval to Pay Bills:

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve to pay check numbers 21788 through 21843, totaling \$110,350.11.

Motion seconded. Bruce Setterstrom. **Unanimously approved** **motion carried**
Bruce Setterstrom abstained from check #21833.

5. Correspondence: Meg Rhoades read a thank you from the VFW convention and the letter from the Nevada Department of Taxation stating that in their review of the audit and no issues or violations were found.

6. Nevada Northern RR Director's Report: The report was in the packet

7. Executive Director's Report: Ed Spear stated that he had returned from the Canadian Snowbird shows and that Bruce Setterstrom attended the show in Mesa Arizona with him. He stated that the Morris Murdock Salt Lake City show attendance was down slightly, most likely due to weather. Bruce Setterstrom reported on his experience at the Mesa Canadian Snowbird show. He said the hardest thing was putting the packets together in the booth and thought we should ship premade packets whenever possible.

He also stated that it was a very long day and he doesn't know how Ed and the staff does it. He is looking forward to attending the Adventure + Gear Fest in Salt Lake City.

8. Staff Report: Meg Rhoades that the Morris Murdock Salt Lake City show was down but that the contacts made were good solid contacts with a lot of interest. Lori Drew was at the Go West Summit and was meeting with international operators. Ms. Rhoades reported that the convention center was very busy coming up with RNMC holding their Annual Refresher Training, the State Bar Family Law Conference, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and several other meetings. April is also very full already.

9. Board Member Reports: Bruce Setterstrom had no report. Lorraine Clark reported that the Art Bank would reopen March 4th and there were five exhibits scheduled to come in. There will be upgrades at the Art Bank and at the Village as well. Ernie Flangas said he was glad to see members of the board helping and attending shows. He also mention that there are several things this summer that the Board will need to help with such as the Bathtub Races.

IV. Public Comment: Ed Spear read the NRS 241.020 that states there is no blanket request pertaining to support material.

V. Adjournment:

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded: Jacki Hansen. **unanimously approved** **motion carried**

Minutes submitted by: Meg Rhoades

Minutes approved by:

Name

Date