

White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 23, 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 Lori Drew Scott Husbands Joy Groves
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Members Absent: None

Public Present:	Dave Tilford Geri Wopschall Mike Cracraft Melody Van Camp Bill Wilson Jim Bath Bill Ricci Bill Calderwood John Gianoli	Drew Skeen Bryant Barnson Tina Perchetti Shane Bybee Cody Bliss Wayne Cameron Matt Bowers Randall Burns Allan Wise
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Ernie Flangas called to order the meeting of the White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board at 10:00 a.m. on June 23, 2016 at the White Pine Room at the Bristlecone Convention Center. Lorraine Clark led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Public Comment:

Shane Bybee representing the Ramada Copper Queen explained that when the original fee was implemented to pay for infrastructure it would have been adequate for a sizable down payment on the project but the fund has been used for other projects by councils that followed his term. He does not agree with using room tax to pay for infrastructure. Drew Skeen from the Hotel Nevada wanted to inform the board about a couple of things they have coming up. Paul Kellogg is working with Virginia Terry on the new mural next to the Hotel Nevada and he is also working on a Kellogg/Gaughan Golf Tournament tentatively set to be held September 9th and 10th. Mr. Kellogg will be bringing up a group and the tournament will be open to others. Matt Bowers spoke about the upcoming convention and how with the support of the Board they have been able to market globally and have attendees from eight different countries coming. He has received reports of hotels filling quickly and registration is increasing every day. The mural has been completed. Mr. Bowers presented the boxes designed to be given to each convention attendee and the convention manual. The concept of creating a pathtag was

explained. A pathtag is planned as our giveaway for the 30th Anniversary of the Loneliest Road in America campaign. Mr. Bowers also talked about the unique picture exhibit of the Lehman Caves that will be displayed at the Art Bank. The Central Theatre space to show the movie Amazing Caves. The two stars from the movie will be attending and royalties have been waved so the Drama Club will sell tickets as a fund raiser.

II. Public Hearing:

1. Budget Augmentation for 2015-2016 Fiscal Year: Ed Spear explained that revenue came in higher for the year and the \$112,500.00 additional revenues will be appropriated to salaries and wages, increase in general government and culture and recreation and services and supplies. Leaving us with an increase in ending fund balance \$7700.00.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Close Public Hearing:

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To close the public hearing.

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

III. New Business:

1. Approval of Resolution to Augment FY-16-01. Ed Spear reviewed the Resolution to Augment 16-01.

Motion: Lorraine Clark. To approve the augmentation FY 16-01.

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

2. Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool Renewal Presentation – Tina Perchetti, L/P Insurance Services: Tina Perchetti presented the new Pool coverage summary.

Motion: Lorraine Clark. To approve the renewal of the Nevada Public Agency Pool offered by L/P Insurance Services.

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

3. Reallocation of A to O Grant 16-15, Dave Tilford: Mr. Tilford stated that the Great Basin National Park Foundation has not been able to use the grant the board awarded them last year to purchase billboard space and would like for the Board to reallocate the funds for them to use to purchase items for the First Light ribbon cutting ceremony.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To approve reallocating grant 16-15 to be spent for the First Light ribbon cutting.

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

4. Approval of Capital Aid Grants:

001-16	WP Horse Races-Jim Bath	\$3,780.00
002-16	Ely Renaissance Society-Lorraine Clark	\$0.00
003-16	City of Ely-Mike Cracraft	\$0.00
004-16	Great Basin Service Club-Allan Wise	\$668.00
005-16	White Pine Public Museum-Bill Wilson	\$8780.00
006-16	White Pine Public Museum-Bill Wilson	\$10,356.67
007-16	City of Ely-Mike Cracraft	\$0.00
008-16	Steptoe Valley Trap & Skeet-Cody Bliss/Bill Ricci	\$15,082.08
009-16	WP Chamber of Commerce-Wayne Cameron	\$850.00
010-16	WP Golf Course-Bill Calderwood	\$0.00
011-16	WP Historical Railroad Foundation-John Gianoli	\$0.00
012-16	WP Historical Railroad Foundation-John Gianoli	\$13,183.25

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve the Capital Improvement grants as read by Lori Drew in the amount of \$52,700.72.

Motion seconded: Lorraine Clark **4 ayes**, Bruce Setterstrom **against** **motion carried**

5. Approval of Tourism & Recreational Facilities Grants:

001-16	WP Horse Races	\$1,264.00
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Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve grant 0001-16 in the amount of \$1264.00.

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

6. Approval July 4th Breakfast: Ed Spear explained that each year the convention center does a continental breakfast to help with the demand for places to eat with the increased number of visitors in town for the holiday. Bruce Setterstrom asked what the cost was and Lori Drew said last year it was \$3600.00.

Motion: Richard Howe. To approve hosting the 4th of July breakfast.

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

7. Approval to Close Offices on July 5, 2016 for Holiday: Mr. Spear explained that due to the breakfast we have closed the day after the 4th of July in the past.

Motion: Lorraine Clark. To approve closing the office on July 5, 2016 for the holiday.

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

8. Approval of Debt management Plan: Ed Spear stated that as of June 30, 2016 the Board has no debt but we are still required to approve a policy

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve debt management plan.

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

9. Approval of Capital Plan: Ed Spear reviewed the 5 year projection.

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve the capital plan.

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

10. Approval of Wage and Salary Increases for Staff: Ed Spear informed the board that there are changes coming to the qualifications for salary exempt, salary non-exempt and hourly. In order to be considered salary exempt the minimum wage will be \$47,476.00/year. In order to bring the second full time position to this level it would require roughly a 24.17% wage increase by July 1, 2019. The new salary non-exempt would require comp time to be accrued at time and a half. The other option is hourly but with the flexible schedule required for the job that the cost would probably be higher going with the hourly option. Jacki Hansen asked that a comparison be made using the hours worked last year to compare the costs. Ed proposed to increase the Business Manager and Event Coordinator salaries by 5% at this time another 11.67% December 1, 2016 and then July 1, 2019 would be the final increase of 7.5%, Maintenance Supervisor by \$.50 per hour and all other staff by \$.25 per hour.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To increase the two salaried positions by 4%, the Maintenance Supervisor by \$.50/hour and the other hourly employees by \$.25/hour. Joy Groves' raise will be effective upon completion of her probation period.

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

11: Approval to Renew an Agreement with the White Pine Chamber of Commerce:

Mr. Spear stated that we use the White Pine Chamber to help us staff events.

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To accept the agreement with the White Pine Chamber.

Motion seconded: Jacki Hansen **4 ayes, Lorraine Clark abstain** **motion carried**

12. Approval of Meeting Dates: Chairman Flangas stated that the dates looked good. Lori Drew pointed out that the November meeting is on a Tuesday because the Thursday is Thanksgiving.

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve the meeting dates as presented.

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

13. Consideration of Legal Action and Remedies Regarding City of Ely Ordinance

Collecting Room Tax from Tourism & Recreation Board: Scott Husbands stated that due to the fact that the City Council will be voting on the room tax increase at their meeting his recommendation is to table this item until the City acts on their agenda item. Bruce Setterstrom stated that he still was concerned with the legality of the city's action and thought that was what the Board was looking into.

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To table the consideration of legal action regarding the City of Ely's Ordinance collecting room tax.

Motion seconded: Bruce Setterstrom

Discussion followed. Richard Howe stated that he felt that invading an autonomous board's budget is not a good idea. He feels that the City should put this on the next ballot. He hopes that the City will consider finding another avenue to fund the infrastructure project. Lorraine Clark commented that she feels that through a large amount of work tourism is coming to the forefront in Ely. She stated that the grant program is essential for a lot of the organizations that run the events and attractions that bring in more visitors. Jacki Hansen stated that it was pointed out that the city's top two priorities were said to be tourism, which this board does, and infrastructure. She thought that taking from one to try to fix the other does not make sense. Bruce

Setterstrom said that the intent is not to take from the budget but to raise the room tax rate to compensate for what is being taken for infrastructure.

unanimously approved motion carried

III. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on Bathtub Races: Lori Drew told the Board that the volunteer shirts would be in the following day. There were no official registration forms turned in as of the time of the meeting. We have verbal commitments on up to seven tubs. Mrs. Drew stated that we still need judges for the Bathtub Boat Show Friday night. The event starts at 6:00 PM. She also described the merchandise that will be available. Ed Spear explained that Lane Hendrix has retired so this would be Allan Wise's first year helping us so we will not be doing the floating barge this year.

2. White Pine Golf Course Update: Lorraine Clark stated that the golf course has been working on the greens and everything is going well. The next meeting will be August 15, 2016.

3. Approval of May 19, 2016 Minutes:

Motion: Lorraine Clark. To approve the May 19, 2016 meeting minutes.

Motion seconded. Jacki Hansen **4 aye, Richard Howe abstained motion carried**

4. Review of the Financial Report: Ed Spear said that the room tax collected was within 93% of expected and we are right in line with the budget.

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To approve the financial report.

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

5. Approval to Pay Bills:

Motion: Jacki Hansen. To ratify checks #22013-22072 in the amount of \$123,584.38

Motion seconded. Lorraine Clark. Bruce Setterstrom abstained from check numbers 22022, 22054 and 22021. **unanimously approved motion carried**

5. Correspondence: Lori Drew read two items from the Nevada Department of Taxation, the letter of approval of the tentative budget and the letter of approval of the final budget.

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

7. Executive Director's Report: Mr. Spear stated that the Lyons building repairs would be carrying over into the next fiscal year due to some unavoidable delays. The CORE

project will be on a separate agenda because it was received too late to get it on this agenda. A special meeting on June, 28, 2016 at 10:00 am was discussed. (Actual date is June 29, 2016 to meet open meeting law posting deadlines) Ed will be meeting with the Lt. Governor on June 29th in Las Vegas about airport issues.

8. Staff Report: Lori Drew reported that once again the tourism inquiry report had a lot of both domestic and foreign visitors recorded. She passed around several articles and awards that have been publicized lately for the area and the Nevada Northern Railway.

9. Board Member Report: Bruce Setterstrom stated that he worked the State Fair in Carson City on Thursday and Friday. Meg Rhoades took over on Saturday and Sunday and it is his understanding that there was more traffic on those days. Richard Howe had no report. Lorraine Clark reported that the paver project at the Renaissance Village was completed. The Renaissance Society has published a book on influential women in White Pine County. The National Speleological Society will be unveiling their mural July 16th. The mural the Hotel Nevada sponsored will be going up soon. Jacki Hansen had no report. Ernie Flangas had a report from USA Today that the safest place to live in America was Ely, Nevada.

IV. Public Comment: Mike Coster stated Steve Stork would probably not be joining Ed in Las Vegas as he is on medical leave. Mr. Coster had some concerns with where to find the agenda online. Ed Spear stated that the new billboards should be up by the end of June and Richard Howe reported that there were some issues with the power at the pole on the new sign for the Nevada Northern Railway. Cody Bliss explained that high school students that participate in the shooting program will have the opportunity to letter in those events.

V. Adjournment:

Motion: Bruce Setterstrom. To adjourn the meeting.

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

Minutes submitted by: Meg Rhoades

Minutes approved by:

Name

Date