

STATE OF NEVADA                    )  
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 COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT            )

February 17, 2021

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- 15. Adjournment

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## MINUTES, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

1. **Time, Place and Date.** The Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority met in regular session in full conformity with the law at the Winnemucca Convention Center, West Hall, Winnemucca, Nevada at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 with Chairman Terry Boyle presiding.

In accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency in Response to the COVID-19 epidemic, the Board's meeting was conducted online via Microsoft Teams; however the Secretary's connection was not intelligible a major portion of the meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance.**

3. **Attendance.** *Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Present:*

Terry Boyle	Chairman and Motel Representative
Brian Stone	Vice Chairman and Hotel Representative
Jim Billingsley	Treasurer and City Representative
Ron Cerri	County Representative
John Arant	Business Representative
Bill Macdonald	Secretary and Counsel
Kendall Swensen	Board Administrator

*Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Absent:*  
None

*Staff Members Present:*

Kim Petersen	Director
Shelly Noble	Administrative Clerk

*Staff Members Absent:*

None

*Others Present:*

Chad Peters	Boys & Girls Club of Winnemucca
Craig Walters	Mucca 44-Hour Softball Tournament
Kyle Walters	Mucca 44-Hour Softball Tournament
Carrie Stark	Nev State 4-H Expo
Douglas Foremaster	
Nnedi Stephens	
Mike Scott	Wmca Regional Raceway Assoc
Brenda Wright	
Rich Stone	

#### **4. Public Comment.**

None.

#### **5. Meeting Notice Report.**

Chairman Boyle reported that notice, including meeting agenda, was posted by Shelly Noble by 9:00 am Thursday, February 11, 2021 at Humboldt County Library, Court House, Post Office, City Hall and Convention Center West Hall. No persons have requested mailed notice during the past six months.

- 6. Business Impact Determination.** Chairman Boyle asked whether any agenda item proposes the adoption by the city or by the county or by the WCVA of any rule, including any ordinance or resolution which would impose, increase or change the basis for the calculation of a fee that is paid in whole or in substantial part by businesses, which would impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a business or directly restrict the formation or expansion of a business, pursuant to NRS Chapter 237? The Chairman called for board or public input thereon; Counsel reported there was no agenda problem; there was no public comment thereon. Action taken.

***Ron Cerri made a motion that there appears to be no business impacting fee matter on today's agenda. The motion carried, 5-0.***

#### **7. Minutes, Review & Action**

Prior meeting minutes of January 20, 2021.

*Brian Stone made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2021 meeting. Motion carried, 4-0. John Arant abstained because he was not present at this meeting.*

8. **Claims, Review & Action.** The following claims, which had been submitted in list form to the board members for review with their 3-day meeting notice and agenda, with the opportunity to obtain further information before or at the meeting, were submitted for payment on February 17, 2021:

<u>BANK ACCOUNT</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Nevada State Bank	25067 - 25111	\$474,576.25

*Ron Cerri made a motion to approve all claims submitted for February 17, 2021. The motion carried, 5-0.*

9. **General Business, for discussion & possible action**

**9.1 Accommodations tax 9-month refund requests, for possible action**

**Venable (\$648), Yeates (\$450), Marczyk (\$634.31)**

*Terry Boyle made a motion to approve the accommodation tax 9-months deemed to be a permanent resident refunds for James Venable (\$648), Tyrun Yeates (\$450), Stanley Marczyk (\$634.31). Motion carried, 5-0.*

**9.2 Chad Peters, Boys & Girls Club of Winnemucca, update on status of 2021 softball/baseball tournament schedule, for information**

Since the beginning of the pandemic restrictions approximately one year ago, the Boys & Girls Club of Winnemucca (BGCW) has had to significantly reduce their programming offered to the community. These adjustments have meant that their ability to generate operating funds has been greatly impacted since they have not been able to run their facility at the same level as they have in the past. In an effort to look at ways to supplement their annual funding, as well as to supplement funding for the City of Winnemucca Recreation Department, Chad has been working with representatives from Sparks and Elko to plan a series of softball tournaments to take place this summer throughout northern Nevada. Five of these tournaments are scheduled at our Sports Complex between March and September. The August tournament will be an overnight softball tournament. Chad hopes to attract between 20 and 35 softball teams to each tournament. Before tournament dates were selected, the Sports Complex and WCVA calendars were consulted so that there were no conflicts with youth tournaments and other community events. Teams that participate in all five Winnemucca tournaments will be eligible for team entry discounts at the Blood & Guts

Softball Tournament in Sparks later in the fall. Chad joined today's meeting to inform WCVA board members about these activities and to answer any questions they may have about the tournaments or other Boys & Girls Club activities. He is not here tonight to request any funding but may return at a later date to make a request. Board members were happy to hear about this series of tournaments planned for the summer.

### **9.3 Craig Walters, 2021 Winnemucca 44-Hour Softball Tournament, June 4-6, 2021, request for Cooperative Funding, for possible action**

Craig and his son, Kyle, joined today's meeting to discuss the 2020 tournament and request funding for the 2021 event. Craig apologized several times to the board for some of the issues that arose during the 2020 tournament. He said he was aware that there were complaints about the excessive trash around the complex, pandemic protocols not being followed, camping being allowed at the complex and restroom vandalism. According to Craig, participating teams filled up most of the hotel/motel rooms in town, the teams were happy with the tournament and the awards they received, and everyone had a great time. Craig stated that in 2019 they had 25 teams and that increased to 62 teams in 2020. He is confident that they will have between 80-100 teams participating this year. He has had interest from teams in Idaho, California, Oregon and here in Nevada. This indicates that their efforts to improve the tournament each year are paying off. For 2021, Kyle Walters will serve as Tournament Director. Craig stated that this will allow himself to better monitor and address the issues that came up in 2020. Kyle has been actively contacting teams from all over the west to invite them to this tournament. WCVA funding is used for awards and Craig stated that the quality of the awards packages is above what most tournaments offer and is a major reason that teams travel here to compete.

Board member John Arant asked Kyle what experience he has had with running softball tournaments. Kyle stated that he has never run a softball tournament but has experience with basketball tournaments, the largest tournament consisting of 40 teams. John said his opinion was that this was the same rhetoric this board has heard for the past two years when funding for this tournament is requested. Promises are made about how things are going to be run, how the funding will be used to make the tournament better and attract more teams and how they (Craig Walters and his family) want to work with community members to make this tournament a cut above the rest. But when things do not go as planned (and there are always at least a few things that do not go as planned) Mr. Walters blames everyone else without taking any responsibility. John asked if the tournament would proceed without WCVA funding. Kyle stated that without WCVA funds the awards packages would suffer since their tournament income would have to be used for other expenses.

During last year's tournament, board member Jim Billingsley made a point to attend and observe the tournament. As a past tournament director himself, he is well aware that these tournaments require attention to many details, all at the same time. He was embarrassed at the amount of trash throughout the complex that no one even attempted to clean up even though there was a dumpster available in the parking lot. In his words, it was a "pig sty". Jim counted 58 teams on the brackets, not the 62 that Craig said he had participating. Since funding was based on team participation and Craig received funding for 62 teams, this discrepancy was unsettling. Craig said there would be 150 games to ensure that the tournament was played all night, but Jim thought there were only 130 games. Due to the problems with this tournament, the City is creating an agreement that specifically outlines the responsibilities of event promoters at the Sports Complex and the consequences if they are not followed. Jim said that if they (Craig and Kyle Walters) are confident that they can attract 80-100 teams at this year's tournament they should not need WCVA funding to be profitable. At the very least, Jim felt WCVA should reduce their funding considerably. Jim also had concerns with the P & L statement that was provided for last year's tournament. He feels that transparency (or lack of) is a major issue with how tournament funds are used. When Craig and Lyle Walters came to this board in 2019 and wanted to start the 44-Hour Tournament up again after several years of not being produced, Jim said he was excited to support it. But after the experiences of the past two years he is hesitant to award any funding.

Board Chairman Terry Boyle stated that he is not interested in having future funding for this event be contingent on the number of teams that participate. He believes that Craig, Kyle and others involved with producing this event should be working towards self-sufficiency that requires no WCVA funds. Past 44-Hour Tournaments, produced by the former promoter, did not require any WCVA funds to be successful.

Board member Brian Stone stated that his major issue with these individuals is trust. He questioned whether the tournament awards were of the caliber that Mr. Walters states they are. The awards list appears to be hit-and-miss. And, at least at the 2019 tournament, awards sponsors (in this case, Winners) did not get their names on the products as promised. How do we even know our funds go to the awards, as stated by Craig and Kyle? Brian said he has brought his concerns up with Craig in the past and he does not seem to take them seriously. Also, only a few of the rooms at Winners were occupied by tournament participants.

Chad Peters spoke up as City Rec Director and expressed his concerns about Mr. Walters treatment of concessionaire Brenda Wright and City Manager Alicia Heiser. Also, when Mr. Walters was questioned about camping at the

complex it was one of those issues he didn't want to deal with, even though he was told specifically by the city that there was to be no camping at the Sports Complex. Chad also stated that this is the only tournament that the city has issues with and is the reason that Alicia is now working on a new rental agreement for the Sports Complex.

Board member Ron Cerri agreed with Jim and John that funding should be reduced and the Walters need to prove that they can run a tournament as it needs to be run and will respect the rules of the complex in order to be eligible for future funding.

Kyle Walters asked that the board extend an opportunity for him to prove that this can be a successful tournament for everyone, with him serving as Tournament Director, and that any problems will be dealt with in a professional manner.

*John Arant made a motion to award Craig Walters, 2021 Winnemucca 44-Hour Softball Tournament, June 4-6, 2021, a \$2,500 grant and \$2,500 underwriting. Motion carried, 4-1.*

#### **9.4 Mike Scott, Winnemucca Regional Raceway Association, 2021 Race Season, request for Cooperative Funding, for possible action**

The Winnemucca Regional Raceway Association (WRRRA) continues to work to bring more racing participants and spectators to town each race season. It is for this reason that most of this year's races are 2-day events. The Northern Nevada Mod Tour and High Desert Classic are two of their most popular racing events. Mike estimates that every car that comes to town to race has at least three people coming along with it. These people stay in hotel/motel rooms, eat out, etc. WRRRA is requesting a \$13,000 grant from WCVA to assist with advertising and payouts for the upcoming season. It was noted that WRRRA still owes \$7,500 on a loan that WCVA made to them for the lighting project two years ago. It was agreed that the loan would be paid off in five years, but Kim just wanted to remind the board of this past funding. Mike stated that we should be receiving a payment on this loan soon. *Terry Boyle made a motion to approve a \$13,000 grant to Winnemucca Regional Raceway Association for their 2021 race season. Motion carried, 5-0.*

#### **9.5 Yost Events, Winnemucca Double Header Team Roping, August 7 & 8, 2021, request for payment of WEC facility fees, for possible action**

A representative from Yost Events was unable to be here tonight, but Kim explained that this was a new roping in 2020 that was quite successful, even in the middle of the pandemic. They are requesting payment of the rental

fees for the Pavilion at the Winnemucca Events Complex for two days, \$1,200. *Ron Cerri made a motion to approve payment of the WEC facility rental fees of \$1,200 for the Winnemucca Double Header Team*

*Roping, August 7 & 8, 2021. Motion carried, 5-0*

**9.6 Carrie Stark, Nevada State 4-H Expo, September 30 – October 3, 2021, request for Cooperative Funding and West Hall facility grant, for possible action**

This is an event that was produced successfully in 2019 but was forced to cancel in 2020 due to the pandemic. Ms. Stark is confident that this year's event can go forward with modifications that follow Covid-19 protocols. Kim stated that the 2019 event attracted 4-H members and their families to Winnemucca for several days and he is in favor of supporting them again this year. They are requesting a \$3,000 grant, payment of WEC facility fees (approximately \$3,700) and a West Hall facility grant for their awards banquet. *John Arant made a motion to approve a \$3,000 grant, payment of WEC facility fees (\$3,700) and a West Hall facility grant for the Nevada State 4-H Expo, September 30 – October 3, 2021. Motion carried, 5-0.* Nevada State 4-H Expo is responsible for any other customary Convention Center charges.

**9.7 Donation to City of Winnemucca Special Events Fund, for possible action**

This is an item that is placed on the WCVA agenda for approval each year. This board is aware that the proposed amount of \$10,000 does not sufficiently offset the personnel expenses associated with special events that we sponsor. Still, this a goodwill gesture we have made over the past several years and hope to continue our working relationship with all local entities since these events are good for many businesses and groups in our community. *Terry Boyle made a motion to approve a \$10,000 donation to the City of Winnemucca Special Events Fund. Motion carried, 5-0.*

**10. Director's Report.**

**10.1 Labor to install roof and base rock for WEC Barn #9 retrofit, for possible action**

For the past several years Kim has worked to gradually cover the barns on the east end of the Winnemucca Events Complex to comply with our agreement with Silver State International Rodeo for covered stalls. These stalls are also available to other events throughout the year. Initially, these stalls were covered with shade cloth but this cloth is expensive and does not hold up in the weather even though WEC staff removed it every fall and reinstalled it each spring. Ag District #3 included funds in their budget to provide a permanent cover for Barn #9 and the commission has approved this



project. Also included in Ag #3's budget and approved by the commission was new base rock for Barn #9. When these budget items were prepared, Kim planned to use Honor Camp and WEC staff to do the work but, due to the pandemic, Honor Camp personnel is not available at this time and WEC staff is busy with other projects so Kim would like to hire laborers through Manpower to complete this project. Work on this project must be completed soon since there is a strict time constraint so that this project is completed before our spring events. Kim will continue to keep in touch with the Honor Camp in case their restrictions ease and they are able to help us out. Kim would like to ask that WCVA commit an amount, not to exceed \$18,000, for labor to complete the roof on Barn 9. He would also like to request that WCVA commit an amount, not to exceed \$12,000, for labor to install base rock in Barn 9.

*John Arant made a motion to approve an amount, not to exceed \$18,000, for labor to complete the roof on Barn 9. Motion carried, 5-0.*

*Ron Cerri made a motion to approve an amount, not to exceed \$12,000, for labor to install base rock in Barn 9. Motion carried, 5-0.*

**10.2 Labor to install box stalls, WEC Barns 4 and 5, for possible action**

No discussion.

**11. Secretary and Counsel, Monthly report, for discussion & possible action**

**11.1 Chamber of Commerce Report for January 2021, for review**  
No report.

**11.2 Update on delinquencies, possible request for authorization for disclosure of confidential information of one or more licensees, for possible action**

No report.

**11.3 Joe Mackie Hall elevators project, for review and possible action**

Bill is working on the specs so we can go out to bid.

**11.4 Improvement projects status reports –**

Melarkey Parking Lot lighting – work began this week on this project

West Hall signage project – no report

Joe Mackie Hall chiller – work is complete, waiting for state inspector

West Hall street sign – no report

**11.5 COVID-19 developments**

No report.

**11.6 Other Recent developments**

Bill has received approval from Nevada Gaming for the Run-A-Mucca motorcycle raffle.

**12. Board Administrator.****12.1 Financial Reports, for discussion**

Room tax cash is down slightly. Our investment account is holding steady.

**12.2 Approval of WCVA Tentative Budget, year ending June 30, 2022, for possible action**

Kendall would like this item moved to the March agenda. This tentative budget isn't due to the state until April 15 so that will give him time to make any changes requested by this board in March.

**13. Other reports**

None.

**14. Public Comment**

None.

**15. Regular Business. Next Meeting. The Board confirmed the next regular meeting date of Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 4:00 pm.**

**16. Adjournment. *Terry Boyle made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.***

The meeting was adjourned to the next regular meeting, or to the earlier call of the Chairman or to the call of any three (3) members of the Board on three (3) working days notice.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Noble

APPROVED ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

As written \_\_\_\_\_

As corrected \_\_\_\_\_

Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
TERRY BOYLE  
Chairman and  
Motel Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
BRIAN STONE  
Vice Chairman and  
Hotel Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
JIM BILLINGSLEY  
Treasurer and City Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
RON CERRI  
County Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN ARANT  
Business Representative

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BILL MACDONALD  
Board Secretary and Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
KENDALL SWENSEN  
Board Administrator

*Convention & Visitors Authority Board Meeting February 17, 2021*

