

EUREKA COUNTY RECREATION BOARD
Regular Meeting 9:00 A.M.
December 12, 2023

PRESENT

Elmer Porter
Robin Hicks
Richard McKay
Darlene Moody
Natosha Cluggage

Kim Todd, Comptroller
Dana Freund Events Coordinator

VISITORS

Brenna Rogne
Garney Damele
Larry McMasters
Trina Machacek
Ed Freund
Kim Russell
Mindy Filippini
Winnona Eversgerd
Trent Gordon

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Chairman Elmer Porter called the meeting to order at approximately 9:07 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Approve Agenda. (For Possible Action)

Action – Motion made by Rich McKay, seconded by Darlene Moody to approve the agenda for the regular meeting of December 12, 2023 as stated. Motion carried by all voting aye.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comment & Discussion. (Discussion)

Member McKay reported that in the spring of 2025 NV Department of Transportation will be making improvements to Main Street.

Agenda Item #4 – (Review of Financial Status of Recreation Board. (Discussion)

Kim Todd, Comptroller, provided financial reports to the Board and noted: Recreation Fund \$39,760.82, Capital Outlay \$30,000.00, and Tourism Fund \$5,356.15.

Discussion followed regarding the current budget and upcoming process.

Agenda Item #5 – Correspondence. (Discussion)

Member Hicks acknowledged correspondence from McMullen, McPhee on behalf of Outdoorsmen in Wheelchairs and a thank you note from Garney Damele, Darlene Moody, and Winnona Eversgerd for supporting restoration of the Masonic Lodge.

***Agenda Item #6 – Review & Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting September 12, 2023.
(For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Action – Motion made by Darlene Moody, seconded by Natosha Cluggage to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2023 as read. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Agenda Item #7 - Eureka High School Rodeo Club – Mindy Filippini/Holli Else
Requesting \$5,000.00 to help pay for prizes, banners/chute signs, programs, lodging for judges,
portable restrooms, and livestock for the High School Rodeo August 16-18, 2024 or
August 23-25, 2024. This is the same amount as last year. (For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Mindy Filippini on behalf of the Eureka High School Rodeo Club approached the Board to discuss the request of \$5,000.00. Mindy talked about the success of the rodeo that was held in August and reviewed the budget for the 2024 rodeo. Board members previously received the Donation Request form.

Board members discussed declining revenue and expressed support to the event. Since this event is scheduled for the next budget cycle, it was suggested to approve \$2,500.00 of \$5,000.00 now and Mindy return in June to request remaining \$2,500.00.

Action – Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to approve half of the \$5,000.00 request from Mindy Filippini on behalf of the Eureka High School Rodeo Club \$2,500.00, Recreation Fund, to help with expenses for the 2024 event. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Agenda Item #8 – Silver State Sportsman – Trent Gordon
Requesting \$7,000.00 to assist with expenses relating to the annual banquet for the coyote call
competition scheduled for March 8-9, 2024. Last year requested \$7,000.00 in which \$6,300.00
was approved. (For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Trent Gordon, President of the Silver State Sportsman, approached the Board to discuss the request for \$7,000.00. Trent reported that last year, due to inclement weather, they only had 55 teams participating in the event. This year, he is hopeful for more teams in which 90-100 invitations are extended. Board members previously received the Donation Request form.

Discussion regarding a 10% reduction due to the current status of available funds. The Board fully supports this event; however, feel that it's not possible to fund the request at 100%.

Action – Motion made by Rich McKay, seconded by Robin Hicks to approve the request from Trent Gordon on behalf of the Silver State Sportsman group at a 10% reduced amount for \$6,300.00, Recreation Fund, to assist with expenses relating to the annual banquet for the coyote call competition schedule March 8-9, 2024. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Agenda Item #9 – Eureka Restoration – Garney Damele
Requesting \$7,000.00 to pay expenses for completing phase 1 restoring the ground level room
of the Masonic building. Previously in June requested \$10,000.00 of which the Board approved
\$5,000.00. (For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Garney Damele and Winnona Eversgerd approached the Board to review the request of \$7,000.00. Garney reviewed donations that have been received from other entities and further talked about the lack of heating capabilities for the ground level floor. In order to install new heaters, it would be necessary for Mt. Wheeler to install a new transformer which would cost approximately \$2,500.00.

She has been working on applying for grant funds and soliciting donations. Board members previously received the Donation Request form.

Members of the Board held a lengthy discussion regarding the legalities of donating to restore a building being used for profit even though classes are offered. As explained to Garney, they are not opposed to the project since previously in June \$5,000.00 was approved. Legitimate concerns were expressed and the other problem is declining revenue for the recreation fund. Concluding the discussion, Member McKay offered to seek legal opinion regarding recreation and tourism funds being used for the restoration of a for profit building. With that, members determined to table the agenda item until a special meeting is scheduled in January.

***Action** – Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to Table the request from Garney Damele until a meeting is scheduled in January and Member McKay receives a legal opinion from the attorney. Motion carried by all voting aye.*

Agenda Item #10 - NV State Old-Time Fiddlers' – Kim Russell/Eureka Restoration Enterprise Requesting \$6,000.00 to help fund lodging/mileage, judges' fees, accompanists' fees, performer's fees, and prize monies for the annual NV State Old-Time Fiddlers' Competition May 17-18, 2024. Last year requested \$7,000.00 in which \$6,300.00 was approved. (For Discussion/Possible Action)

Kim Russel representing the NV State Old-Time Fiddlers' approached the Board to talk about her request for \$6,000.00. She went on to review her budget and noted that she has a remaining balance of \$1,500.00. Last year, there were 40 participants. This year, she plans to charge \$5.00 to attend the competition. Board members previously received the Donation Request form.

***Action** – Motion made by Darlene Moody, seconded by Natasha Cluggage to approve the request from Kim Russell representing the NV State Old-Time Fiddlers' for \$6,000.00, Recreation Fund. Motion carried by all voting aye.*

Agenda Item #11 - Eureka Swim Club – Brenna Rogne Requesting \$4,500.00 to pay for expenses for hosting swim meets, officials, medals, and food. Previously in 2019 the Board approved \$3,000.00. (For Discussion/Possible Action)

Brenna Rogne, Supervisor of the Eureka Swimming Pool, approached the Board to discuss her request of \$4,500.00. Brenna reviewed her request and noted that she would be happy to reduce the amount as she understands that the recreation fund has declining revenue. Currently there are 27 kids participating in the swim club. Board members previously received the Donation Request form.

The Board expressed their support to the swim club noting that it is a worthwhile recreational activity for the children. During the discussion, members asked if \$2,500.00 would help with the most important purchases as outlined. The Board would have their next regular meeting in March at which time Brenna could submit another request.

***Action** – Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to approve \$2,500.00, Recreation Fund, to help pay for swim supplies for the Eureka Swim Club. Motion carried by all voting aye.*

10:20AM – Recess

10:30AM – Board Reconvened

***Agenda Item #12 - Eureka Tourism Director – Dana Freund
Requesting \$5,910.12 for 12-months of advertising in the Everything Elko Magazine,
January to January. (For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Dana Freund approached the Board to discuss her requests beginning with advertising in the Everything Elko Magazine. Board members previously received all the Donation Request forms.

Dana and the Board discussed the cost of advertising in the magazine for a full year when there are months with no events happening in Eureka. She indicated that it might be more beneficial to advertise for only six months when there are scheduled events. She could bring back her request for the March meeting and only advertise for six months.

Action – Motion made by Rich McKay, seconded by Darlene Moody to Table the request from Dana Freund until the March meeting. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Requesting \$10,000.00 for 2,500 Visitor’s guides which will include the Walking Tour map.
(For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Dana continued to discuss her request of \$10,000.00 for the Visitor’s guides. She noted that the guides will include the Walking Tour map.

Chairman Porter asked about the fees associated with the ads that were sold. Dana explained the process of selling ads and how those monies were used to offset the publication. Dana explained that the new guide would not include advertising. Members are supportive of the guide and feel that tourists find them helpful.

Action – Motion made by Darlene Moody, seconded by Natosha Cluggage to approve the request from Dana Freund for \$10,000.00, \$5,000.00 Recreation Fund and \$5,000.00 Tourism Fund, for 2,500 Visitor’s guides to include the Walking Tour map. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Requesting \$7,200.00 to purchase four benches for the downtown area. This is a new request.
(For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Dana recalled previous discussions regarding benches for the sidewalks on Main Street. These benches would be a great addition for locals and tourists to have a place to sit while walking on Main Street. After researching the cost of fabrication, the best price she found is from a vendor in Lincoln County which will save on shipping charges. There is an opportunity to customize what goes on the benches and design.

Ideas were generated from everyone regarding the benches and possibly allow people to purchase a bench dedicating it to a loved one, In Memory of. Dana commented that she could advertise the benches for anyone interested in purchasing.

Board members were supportive of purchasing two benches with the lettering, Welcome To Eureka.

Action – Motion made by Rich McKay, seconded by Robin Hicks to approve the request from Dana Freund for \$3,600.00, Capital Projects Fund, for two benches with the lettering “Welcome To Eureka”. Motion carried by all voting aye.

Agenda Item #13 - Eureka County Recreation Board

***Discuss with Pernecia Johnson pursuing an audit of all room tax payors.
(For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Chairman Porter reported on his conversation with Pernecia regarding an audit of all room tax payors. Pernecia had indicated that her office is not interested in pursuing an audit and felt it would not prove beneficial.

Members discussed property owners who have trailer hookups and if they should be paying room tax when the tenants are not staying monthly. There are numerous trailer hookups in Eureka in which not all tenants reside by the month. One suggestion was possibly to send notification to all property owners stating the NRS requirements for paying room tax. In conclusion, Pernecia will be asked to attend the special meeting in January to discuss collection of room tax.

Action – None.

Discussion/set budget allocations for the tourism, recreation, and capital projects funds for next year based on collection of room tax. (For Discussion/Possible Action)

Action – Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to Table this agenda item until the January meeting. Motion carried by all voting aye.

Agenda Item #14 - Eureka County Recreation Board

***Resignation from Dana Freund, Events Coordinator effective June 30, 2024.
(For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Chairman Porter recalled discussion with the District Attorney regarding the process of accepting or not accepting the resignation from Dana that was sent to the Board in June. Therefore, the Board can take action on the current contract. Dana had offered changing the scope of work for her contract by working remotely for a reduced salary and a budget for advertising. With declining revenue, the Board needs to determine what the needs are for the position.

Board members and Dana discussed at length the position. Dana talked about the web services that she maintains and offered to help a new person if necessary.

Action – Motion made by Rich McKay, seconded by Robin Hicks to accept the resignation from Dana Freund, Events Coordinator, effective June 30, 2024. Motion carried by all voting aye.

Agenda Item #15 - Eureka County Recreation Board

Discussion regarding the scope of work for the position of Events/Tourism Coordinator for 2024-2025. (For Discussion/Possible Action)

The Board discussed tabling this agenda item until the January meeting.

Action – Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to Table this agenda item until the January meeting. Motion carried by all voting aye.

***Agenda Item #16 - Eureka County Recreation Board & Dana Freund, Events Coordinator
*Downtown Beautification Budget. (For Discussion/Possible Action)***

Previously Dana had provided extensive information regarding the Downtown Beautification project which is under the Governor's Economic Development. She has attended several meetings and has been working on a strategic plan. With that, she would like to provide an update during the January meeting and then table this agenda item until the March meeting.

Chairman Porter asked Dana about the updates that were previously provided including the bike trails and payment to the BLM for \$115.00. He went on to say that if Dana has paid the \$115.00 by the January meeting; then she could request to be reimbursed.

One another note, Chairman Porter asked about the new domain and web expenses. Dana replied that she pays approximately \$1,000.00. Members indicated that Dana should be reimbursed for those expenses.

Action – None.

Agenda Item #17 - Public Comment & Discussion. (Discussion)

None.

Agenda Item #18 - Review Funds Expended and Set Next Meeting Date. (Discussion)

Funds expended were as follows: Recreation Fund \$22,000.00 remaining balance \$17,760.82, Tourism Fund \$5,000.00 remaining balance \$356.15, and Capital Outlay Fund \$3,600.00 remaining balance \$26,400.00.

Members of the Recreation Board discussed scheduling a special meeting tentatively for Wednesday January 17, 2024, starting at 9:00am. In addition, the next regular meeting was scheduled for Tuesday March 12, 2024, starting at 9:00am.

Agenda Item #19 - Adjournment. (For Possible Action)

Action - Motion made by Robin Hicks, seconded by Darlene Moody to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by all voting aye.

Meeting Adjourned

EUREKA COUNTY RECREATION BOARD

Secretary