

WINNEMUCCA CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY
Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting
February 15, 2023
Winnemucca Convention Center
50 West Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

The meeting was held at the date and place described above at the time scheduled on the posted meeting notice and agenda. The attendees in-person and via remote technology and absences were as follows:

Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Present:

Brian Stone, in-person	Chair and Hotel Representative
John Arant, in-person	Vice Chair and Business Representative
Terry Boyle, in-person	Treasurer and Motel Representative
Theresa Mavity, in-person	City Representative
Kent Maher, in-person	Board Counsel

Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Absent:

Ron Cerri	County Representative
Kendall Swensen	Board Administrator

Staff Members Present:

Kim Petersen, in-person	Director
Liz Barnard, in-person	Administrative Specialist

Staff Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Jason Dondero, via remote technology	Cumming Group
Carolina Dias DaSilva, via remote technology	TSK Architects
Tom Stevenson, via remote technology	CRL Sports (formerly Championship Rugby League)
Brandon Nuffer, in-person	Western States Ranch Rodeo Association
Mishelle Noyes, in-person	Winnemucca FFA Alumni Association

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, CALL TO ORDER, ROLL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm; the four board members in attendance constituted a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

3. MEETING NOTICE REPORT

Board Chair Stone reported that the meeting notice and agenda were posted by staff prior to 9:00 am Friday, February 10, 2022, at the Convention Center West Hall (the place of the meeting), online at notice.nv.gov, online at winnemucca.com, and online at humboldtcountynv.gov. No persons have requested mailed notice during the past six months.

No action taken.

4. BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

After review and consideration of the effect each item could potentially have on a “business,” as the term is defined by statute, the board agreed, and

Terry Boyle moved to make a finding that no item on the agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or to directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business. Motion carried, 4-0.

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5. CLAIMS REVIEW

The following claims were submitted in list form to the board members with the meeting notice and agenda, with the opportunity to review and obtain further information before or at the meeting:

<u>BANK ACCOUNT</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Nevada State Bank	26584 - 26644	\$319,444.98

John Arant moved to approve all claims submitted for February 15, 2023. Motion carried, 4-0.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.1. WCVA Meeting Minutes
Meeting Minutes January 19, 2023

6.2. Accommodation Tax 9-month refund requests as follows: Kohler (\$491.76), Gunnells (\$405.48), Christensen (\$1,111.20), Rodger (\$969.00), LaFever (\$494.55), Hadley (\$482.13), Ruttенbur (\$597.60), and Harber (\$416.40).

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1) Cumming Group/TSK, Joe Mackie (East) Hall exterior renovation project, presentation and possible approval of design concepts for exterior building improvements and direction to WCVA staff on the next steps for the renovation project

Jason Dondero with Cumming Group and Carolina Dias DaSilva with TSK presented and explained the current schematic design for the proposed East Hall exterior refinishing project. Dondero noted that to be in compliance with current OSHA standards the parapet on the roof will need to be reworked. The previously discussed idea of having an LED banner board on three sides of the building and adding an approximately 12" x 40" LED screen on the west wall was researched and it is estimated to add approximately \$800,000 to the project cost.

John Arant moved to authorize the Cumming Group prepare and provide an updated cost estimate and present it to staff. Motion carried, 4-0.

7.2) Brandon Nuffer, Western States Ranch Rodeo Association, 2022 event report and review and 2023 Cooperative Funding request, November 1-4, 2023, \$25,000

Brandon Nuffer reviewed the 2022 event, noting that it was the first finals undertaken by the current group of owners. Nuffer said there were some challenges, but overall there were more positives than negatives with the event. The association made some changes to their qualifying process to help level the field for teams from areas with fewer rodeos which should help in the future. There has been interest from prior sponsors wanting to become sponsors again. Director Petersen commented that there was less tension experienced with the event than in the past. Nuffer said although they broke even at this event, they are reviewing and refining their budget to eliminate unnecessary expenses, some of which were the result of not having good budget information from prior events. Chair Stone commented that he noticed that the event seemed to go much smoother than last year. Board member Boyle provided a brief history of the board funding of the event and reminded that funding is separated into a grant and an underwriting.

Terry Boyle moved to approve the funding request as a grant of \$15,000 and \$10,000 underwriting. Motion carried, 4-0.

7.3) Tom Stevenson, Championship Rugby League, Winnemucca 2022 events financial, participation and attendance reports and proposals for a Winnemucca 2023 event, September 2-3, 2023

Tom Stevenson explained the history of Championship Rugby League, now CRL Sports, which he represents, and their involvement with Pacific Sports International (PSI), noting that CRL Sports is no longer associated or involved with PSI. Stevenson identified what he believes were the issues with the Winnemucca 2022 events, including bad weather, poor behavior by some of the participants, a difficult partner relationship and poor marketing. Stevenson acknowledged the organization still has some outstanding bills owed in the community. Vice Chair Arant commented that he would like to see all local outstanding debts paid before there is any consideration of future events. Stevenson said the event promised to Elko was never held and instead of repaying the funding provided by Elko, the plan now is to put on an event in Elko this year without seeking funding assistance. Stevenson commented that he

believes that the sport rugby has lots of room for growth in the United States. CRL is proposing to hold a series of Rugby games for four weekends in May in Winnemucca. Board member Boyle commented that adverse weather can still be an issue during the month of May and suggested Stevenson look at the local events calendar prior to proposing firm dates as there are already several busy weekends in May which could impact the possibility for success. Chair Stone mentioned that host hotels are often full some of the weekends in May. Stone also suggested that CRL Sports needs to determine whether any of the venues here are capable of hosting the events and if there is in fact an appetite to have the rugby-type events in Winnemucca. Director Petersen pointed out there is extra effort required of WEC staff to move bleachers to a game location not at the WEC. Stone also expressed concern that although there was a pitch by the League initially about setting up a training camp in Winnemucca, there seems to be no plan in place specific to Winnemucca.

No action taken.

7.4) Michelle Hammond Allen, Winnemucca FFA Alumni Association, Cooperative Funding (\$950) and Facility Grant (\$750) requests, FFA Alumni Sizzlin' Steak Scholarship Dinner, February 25, 2023
Mishelle Noyes presented the request. The board reviewed the request and acknowledged that they have supported this event in the past as it does bring people into town for the night.

John Arant moved to approve the request as presented for a grant to use the West Hall and kitchen for the Winnemucca FFA Alumni Sizzlin' Steak Scholarship Dinner. Motion carried, 4-0.

7.5) John Sanchez, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, 2023 Facility Grant request, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet, March 18, 2023, \$800

The board reviewed the grant request and agreed that this has been a good event in the past.

John Arant moved to approve the request as presented for a grant to use the West Hall for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet. Motion carried, 4-0.

7.6) Jim Rackley, Nevada Muleys, 2023 Cooperative Funding request, 15th Annual Fundraising Banquet, March 25, 2023, up to \$1,200

Director Petersen explained that previously the event was held in the West Hall until it outgrew the facility and moved to another larger venue before finally moving to the concourse of the Indoor Events Center. There is significant WCVA staff time, effort and cost for the set-up required when holding the event at the Events Center and WCVA does not realize any alternate sources of revenue from catering, etc. which is received when an event is held at the Convention Center.

Terry Boyle moved to approve the cooperative funding request of \$700 to pay the facility fee at the WEC. Motion carried, 4-0.

7.7) Mitch Pollack, New Year's Eve Xtreme Broncs 2022 event review and plans and proposals for the 2023 event

Item tabled to a later meeting.

7.8) WCVA staff, Run-A-Mucca event budget review and possible funding increase for the event
Chair Stone spoke as a member of the Run-A-Mucca Committee expressing concern that the current budget for Run-A-Mucca needs to be reviewed to see if the economic impact justifies increasing the amount of money budgeted for the event.

Item tabled to a later meeting.

7.9) WCVA staff, WCVA Tentative Budget review and proposals for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024

Item tabled to a later meeting.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Petersen noted that the Ranch Hand Rodeo is coming up, the team slots are all filled, as are vendor spaces and the dog trial entries. Petersen commented that there is discussion at the state level that the local honor camp facility may be closing, which will create a serious workforce shortage that will affect the ability to prepare for and host events at the WEC.

9. COUNSEL REPORT

No report.

10. BOARD ADMINISTRATOR FINANCIAL REPORTS

10.1. Financial Reports

Reports were available in the board packet for review.

Board Treasurer Boyle noted that revenue seems to be comparable with 21/22 revenue.

11. OTHER REPORTS

11.1. Miscellaneous Reports

Reports were available in the board packet for review.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

13. ADJOURNMENT

John Arant moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Barnard
Administrative Specialist

APPROVED: March 15, 2023

VOTE: WINNEMUCCA CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY BOARD

AYES: Stone, Arant, Mavity

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: Cerri

ABSENT: Boyle

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian Stone, Chair

Liz Barnard, Administrative Specialist