

SWEETWATER COUNTY EVENTS COMPLEX

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

April 23, 2019

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approvals of March 26, 2019 Meeting Board Minutes
5. Financial Report
6. Approval of Checks:
 - 1st Bank Checks: 56718 – 56733
 - 1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5334 – 5366
 - Commerce Bank Checks: 1209 – 1217
 - Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 23367 – 23412
7. Public Comment
8. Presentations
 - Rocket City Racers
9. Listing of May 2019 Events
10. Correspondence
11. Old Business
 - Capital projects update
 - Renovated Shop
 - Exhibit Hall Breakout Rooms
 - Exhibit Hall Roof Project
 - Water Project
 - 2019 NHSFR Update
 - 2019 Fair Update
12. New Business
 - Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget
 - Equipment Leases
13. Closing Comments
 - Staff: Executive Director
 - Board: Open Forum for Board Comments
 - Commissioner Comments
14. Executive Session, if needed.
15. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting is May 28, 2019

**Sweetwater County Events Complex
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
April 23, 2019**

Call to Order:

Chairperson Hartford called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Present: Kaye Goicolea, Roger Torgersen, Paul Zancanella, Bob Spicer, Janet Hartford
Rob Zotti and Donald Pallesen

Absent: Faith Harris

Also present: Larry Lloyd, Robert Perry, Kandi Pendleton, Erika Koshar, Lena Warren, Tamara
Musgrove, Shae Lux and Commissioner Roy Lloyd

Approval of Agenda:

Trustee Zotti moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Torgersen.
Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Zotti moved to approve the March 26, 2019, board minutes as presented. The motion was
seconded by Trustee Torgersen and passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Cash Balance, April 1, 2019	\$207,582
Add Receipts	\$151,895
Less Expenditures	\$232,053
Cash Balance, April 23, 2019	<u>\$127,424</u>

Trustee Torgersen moved to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Trustee
Zancanella and passed unanimously.

Approval of Checks:

Motion to approve-

1st Bank Checks: 56718 – 56733
1st Bank Direct Deposits: 5334 – 5366
Commerce Bank Checks: 1209 – 1217
Commerce Bank Direct Deposits: 23367 – 23418

Trustee Zotti moved to approve all checks as presented. Motion seconded by Trustee Torgersen.
Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Presentations:

Rocket City Racers – Tim & Allen presented to City of RS in an attempt to get drag racing up and running in Rock Springs. Their original location proposal was declined by the City Council. They went through social media & had an interest petition looking for interest in the area. Online, they had 300-400 people interested, not necessarily racers, but enthusiasts. Even those people were opposed to the location, were not against concept of drag racing and supporting the community. Other suggestions were presented in the South parking lot on the Sweetwater Events Complex property. If they can pave the ¼ mile section, they'd be able to host a 1/8 mile race track. They want to know what they need to do to get a feeling.... Wyoming Machinery will donate equipment to and other donating materials to make it all worthwhile. Their goal is to find a place to safely regulate drag racing in the area. This pavement would not be available to race at any time. They want to have three events during the summer months (June, July & August). The group understands the need to have seating, lights and porta-potties. They are dedicated in making it happen and would like to cover every base.

They know the safety issues are a concern, based on conversations with Evanston – only 2 accidents in the last 12 years. It is hard to find a piece of property to make these events work.

Trustee Hartford inquired about the track in Evanston. The group noted that the track there is sanctioned for national points. It is well attended for drivers and attendees.

These cars are street legal, not official dragsters. He knows people will drive into town for this event and be an economic impact. Having organized races will curb the unauthorized racing.

The college offered their Dyno at no cost for testing, to avoid the street racing.

Trustee Zotti asked the Board if they want to look at the feasibility.

Trustee Hartford wondered how we schedule these events in our already busy schedules. She would like to know the insurance would affect the complex.

Director Lloyd wouldn't mind looking into the option & what it would take to grade and asphalt the area. Staff can look at the calendar. There may be a cost that has to be covered. Doesn't want to shut down any enthusiasm.

Trustee Torgersen noted that would like to see the enthusiasm on the property.

Director Lloyd would like to set a meeting with a punch list of options and specific tasks.

Trustee Zotti knows that scheduling is difficult on the property and would like to see a fair consideration for these events.

The group will bring back the specifics and we will continue to look into the feasibility.

Listing of Events:

Erika Koshar reviewed the May 2019 events.

Correspondence:

Thank you note from Sweetwater County High School Rodeo for helping their April event.

Old Business:

Capital projects update –

Renovated Small Building – New Shop: We moved the maintenance shop from the Exhibit Hall to the renovated “Rabbit Barn”.

Exhibit Hall Breakout Rooms: Groups are continuously requesting additional breakout rooms and these added rooms will help the larger groups.

Exhibit Hall Roof Project: We had a lot of water coming into the building during the rain storm and not enough buckets, so we are excited for the renovations.

Water Project: The new well is moving along. We have the new well tested and planned for piping. We are continuing to utilize the old well for Road & Bridge access, adding an overhead loader to the far end of the Grandstands parking lot. We will be able to utilize the new well for the rest of the property and events.

2019 NHSFR Update – Kandi presented the new ad campaign for NHSFR, noting their work on sponsorship and program ads. We are excited to have all the stalls figured out and they will start going up soon. A new system for camping reservations to help alleviate the overflow. We are only allowing contestant reservations and the extended family units will go into town.

With questions regarding current spread of disease among the horses, staff, along with Trustee Zancanella, met with the state vet board and they developed a contingency plan to quarantine infected horses off-site. As it is a sporadic disease, we are fortunate to not have seen it here.

We are using the two new meeting rooms for extra meeting space this year. The Small Hall will be revamped with HVAC for the NHSRA offices.

The volunteer program will be up and running in the next few weeks. We’ve already received inquiries for rodeo help, and we love the enthusiasm.

Director Lloyd noted that this is our last year until 2024. However, the NHSRA Board is currently looking for indoor arena options. We are looking at options to create an indoor option for our facility. Trustee Zotti inquired if the indoor option is really feasible for the size of NHSFR. Lloyd noted that there are large facilities in the South proposing options for the event. We are currently behind on the curve and we don’t want to be left in the dust.

The Events Complex brings in more people into the area to offset the declining population and monies flowing through the property. Last year we had 500K people flow through our property (local and out of area).

2019 Fair Update – Kandi Pendleton showcased the Go Big Fair theme. Scheduling will look very similar, entertainment is updated online and camping reservations will begin on our website May 1st. We are working on some great flash sales to push online sales. Pendleton also presented the concert line up for 2019. VIP badging will change for 2019.

It was also noted that 23% of online ticket sales were out of County, showing that we draw a crowd from all areas.

SEC Foundation Update – Lena Warren presented that the Bootleggers bash was very successful, raising \$21,700, an increase from the prior year. Director Lloyd noted that we are beginning conversations with the gas company.

Due to Board changes, we've asked Kayla McDonald to join the board and we believe she will be an active member of the Board.

Trustee Zotti moved to appoint Kayla McDonald to the SEC Foundation Board. Motion seconded by Trustee Spicer. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget –

Director Lloyd presented the current budget year's capital projects, totaling \$1,053,579.

The FY2020 budget will have a number of additional capital projects including continued Exhibit Hall renovation, Small Hall renovation, Indoor Arena renovation, Motocross/Stall restroom, Sheep Barn renovation, Motocross water system, additional landscaping, stall/jackpot restroom, outdoor lighting, outdoor pavilion, WIFI upgrades and asphalt projects. The total of all projects equates to \$2,608,339. There are beginning discussions of moving the motocross from inside the property to across the street. It would be a better spot visible to the community.

The total request from the County is as follows:

Revenues	FY2019	FY2020
SW County Funding	2853574	4853574
Sales/Concessions		
Admissions/Entries		
Rental Fees		
Sponsorships		
Grants		
Cash Carryover		

Trustee Zotti inquired if we are asking for \$2M in addition to the \$800k provided last year. Pendleton noted that we are presenting the same list for capital projects.

Trustee Torgersen moved to approved the FY2020 Budget as presented. Motion seconded by

Trustee Spicer. Motion passed unanimously.

Horse Racing – Director Lloyd noted that he would like to look at removing live horse racing from the property. We currently hold most of the property for 4 weeks for the event and we are not seeing the return on the rentals.

Director Lloyd will email the state statute to the Board for their interpretation and consideration of this option. Trustee Zotti inquired if we will need to meet any demands for live horse racing. Pendleton noted that it totaled about \$500k.

Director Lloyd informed the Board that the State Legislature changed the statute allowing only one location of live horse racing in the state to allow for historical horse racing within the county. In short, the group does not need our location to continue with off-track betting.

Closing Comments

Executive Director: Executive Director presented the Lucky 3 barrel race we are hosting Memorial Day weekend. We've received positive responses for entries. Kandi Pendleton noted that we are looking to make it a big, social weekend and the only large event within 6 states.

Board Members: Trustee Torgersen noted that he previously misunderstood that the added water station would not just be for shower pressure, but as a fire safety issue.

Commissioner Lloyd: Commissioner Lloyd noted that the County is only expecting about 1.5 to 2M increase from prior year. The budget process has begun, but he hasn't seen any requests come through yet. He noted that he sees the vision presented by the Complex. He'd like to see a quarterly presentation by the Complex to the Board of Commissioners, so that they can see our vision directly. Lloyd would like to see the Commission start some long term planning and meeting with the directors. He'd like to see more systematic budget discussions.

Adjournment:

Trustee Zotti moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Goicolea seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Janet Hartford, Chairman

Roger Torgersen, Secretary