

- 10.6 Procedure request: Event close-down extension, for possible action
 - 10.7 American Mule Racing Association complaint – Non-inclusion of mule racing in 2014 event calendar
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MINUTES, AUGUST 20, 2014

1. Time, Place and Date. The Winnemucca Convention and 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, August 20, 2014 with Chairman Terry Boyle presiding.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Terry Boyle	Chairman and Hotel Representative
Don Stoker	Treasurer and Motel Representative
Dan Cassinelli	County Representative
Herb Ross	Business Representative
Bill Macdonald	Secretary and Counsel
Kendall Swensen	Board Administrator

Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Absent:

Jim Billingsley	City Representative
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Staff Members Present:

Kim Petersen	Director
Shelly Noble	Administrative Clerk

Staff Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Demetrio Herrera	Winnemucca Motocross
Jerry Fox	Winnemucca Motocross
Joyce Sheen	Winnemucca Publishing
Kent Maher	Ag District #3
Joel Murphy	Northern Nevada Racing Association

4. Meeting Notice Report.

Chairman Boyle reported that notice, including meeting agenda, was posted by Shelly Noble by 9:00 am Friday, July 11, 2014 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.

- 5. Business Impact Determination.** After review of the August 20, 2014 agenda, and report by Counsel that he saw nothing in the Agenda requiring a business economic impact study or statement, *Don Stoker made a motion that no proposed agenda item is likely to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict formation, operation, or expansion of a business. The motion carried, 4-0.*

6. Minutes.

Prior meeting minutes, July 16, 2014.

Don Stoker made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2014 meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. Dan abstained since he was not present for that meeting.

- 7. Claims.** The following claims were reported to the Board Members by a copy of the proposed Check Register MC-000286, MC-000287 CD-000235 and MC-000288 as a portion of the pre-meeting board packets provided to the Members as supplemented by Supplemental Check Register CD-000236 at time of meeting.

<u>BANK ACCOUNT</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Nevada State Bank	19415-19489	\$362,484.65

Don Stoker made a motion to approve all claims as submitted. The motion carried, 4-0.

8. General Business.

8.1 Elect Vice Chairman, for possible action

After a brief discussion, *Dan Cassinelli made a motion to nominate our newest board member, Herb Ross, to serve as Vice Chairman. Motion carried, 4-0.*

8.2 Joel Murphy, No Nevada Racing Association, update on Good Times Street Drags, request for funding, for possible action

Joel reported that at this year's event they had one more car participate in the races (compared to last year) but few spectators. He feels that a similar event at Wells and also the Night in the Country event in Yerington were their major competition this weekend. Even some of his regular volunteers did not help out this year since they went to Night in the Country. Overall,

the weekend had a net profit of \$400 before the additional money that they will receive from WCVA, \$1,875. Usually NNRA will make several thousand dollars at this event. For the amount of time it takes to set up, run and take down this event, this small margin will make it difficult to continue in the future. One possibility discussed was moving these races out to the drag strip. Also, changing dates was another option discussed and the possibility of Fifties Fever not preceding any of Reno's Hot August Nights dates when planning for future years since we do not get overflow any longer from HAN. Increases in insurance premiums continue to be a major concern for all motorized sport organizations. Annual increases of 50% to 100% are not uncommon and limited underwriters make finding any policy difficult. If the increases continue at this level some of these events may not be able to continue. For the Street Drags weekend alone this year the policy was almost \$5,000. This was on top of their annual policy for races at the drag strip. Joel wanted to discuss the possibility of WCVA providing some assistance to offset this expense. There was a discussion about the possibility of all the motor sports groups combining to shop for insurance, possibly through the county. Dan Cassinelli said he would discuss this with Bill Deist. And Kim said he would contact POOL/PACT to see if there was any way these events could be covered through them. NNRA has one more race in September that they are hoping will help them recoup some of their funds. The board would like to try to do something to assist all the motorized sports groups and asked Joel to come back after the September races with a funding request if they still feel this necessary. These are good events and this board does not want them to go away.

8.3 Demo Herrera, Wmca Triple Crown Motocross Races, August & October 2014, request for funding, for possible action

The local motocross club is a member of the Sierra Motocross Racing Association. Recently, there have been some "shaking up" of this organization so that Winnemucca is one of the few clubs intact. This means that to compete in motocross any racers from northern Nevada and their families must travel to California for sanctioned racing. Demo and Jerry Fox are here tonight because they are heading up two races here in Winnemucca where they expect to attract 300-400 participants and their families for racing in Winnemucca. The first weekend of racing is this Labor Day weekend. These are sanctioned races. They are requesting a \$3,000 grant to offset some of their start-up expenses. A mailing to 1,000 motocross racers was sent out earlier this month and our Tri-County Fair flyer was included in this mailing. Demo is starting the races an hour earlier each day in hopes that by finishing early in the day these visitors will head to the Fair for something to do. ***Dan Cassinelli made a motion to approve a \$3,000 grant to the Winnemucca Triple Crown Motocross Races in August and October, 2014. Motion carried, 4-0.***

8.4 Request for rental of stock panels, Heidi Kiechbusch, Spanish Springs High School Rodeo Team, September 26-28, 2014, for possible action

When Silver State International Rodeo agreed to move their event to the Winnemucca Events Complex in 2011, WCVA agreed to purchase 1,000 of their lightweight stock panels at a cost of \$70,000 to use during this event and others. Since WCVA purchased these panels and these panels are the ones that this group is requesting to rent, Kim felt that this board should be the one to make the decision. As an FYI, Kim informed this board that the Ag District #3 Board supports renting the panels to this organization. Dan Cassinelli was adamant that these panels not be rented out. His concerns were damage and loss since once they are out of our possession we have no control over what happens to them. Plus, he did not want to start renting them out since once the word gets out that we rent panels, we will get many more requests. These panels were purchased for our events and the board felt that Spanish Springs High School was close enough to Reno and other outlying areas that they should be able to find other panels to rent or purchase. *Dan Cassinelli made a motion denying the request to rent stock panels made by Heidi Kiechbusch and the Spanish Springs High School Rodeo Team. Motion carried, 4-0.*

8.5 Denio Community Club, request for Small Community Grant funding, for possible action

Denio has not made a request for these funds for several years so they have an accumulated amount available to them of \$4,000. They are requesting \$3,475.01 to purchase tables and chairs for their community hall. *Don Stoker made a motion to approve the Denio Community Club's request for Small Community Grant funding in the amount of \$3,475.01 to be used for the purchase of tables and chairs. Motion carried, 4-0.*

9.6 Accommodation tax 9-month refund requests, for possible action McDonald (\$405), Torres (\$639.29)

Dan Cassinelli made a motion to approve the accommodation tax 9-month refund requests for Chris McDonald (\$405) and Jesse Torres, Jr. (\$639.29). Motion carried, 4-0.

9. Director's Report.

9.1 Financial reports on WCVA events

Bank reconciliations for the Tri-County Fair and Ranch Hand Rodeo were included in the board packets for review.

9.2 Closing hour variance for Winnemucca Convention Center events, for possible action

Over the years there have been a few events come to this board requesting that they be allowed to go past the hours as stated in their License Agreement. This board has never denied any of these requests. Last month Javier Rivera wanted to make a similar request but did not make his request in time to be included on the meeting agenda. This board wanted to discuss giving Kim the authority to extend hours for events at the Convention Center. Since these requests are not made very often, the board decided to leave the rules as they are and require events that wish to go later in the evening to come before this board to make their request.

9.3 EH/WH restroom re-model update, for possible action

This discussion has been on-going for quite some time. Initially, Kim had contacted Bob Hooft to design this re-model. Mr. Hooft had come up with a plan that involved engineers and other professionals costing approximately \$15,000 before any work was actually done. Kim spoke with Bobby Thomas, Humboldt County Building Inspector, who told him that engineering work was not necessary since we are not changing the “footprint” of the restrooms, just updating them. Desert Design will only do tile work and will not coordinate any other kind of work so Kim would like to contact Michael Clay to get an idea of what the cost would be for him to take it over as a general contractor. Depending on the cost, we will then decide next step. The board agreed on this plan.

9.4 Winnemucca Mule Races, event update, for possible action

This board is aware that Don Jacklin of the American Mule Racing Association (AMRA) wrote a letter to Kim and also sent it to local officials and members of this board. In it he requested that WCVA look at the mule races and the efforts of WCVA to bring them back in 2015. Kim had Kent Maher help him draft a response that he shared with board members tonight so that he could get their input. Kent is here tonight representing the Ag District #3 and to hear this board’s input so he can work with Kim to get this letter finished and sent out. Terry requested that some of the language in the second paragraph be re-worked that discusses the flawed economic statistics that were presented in Mr. Jacklin’s letter. While he agreed with the sentiment, he thought it could be considered inflammatory. Also, he would like to see more than just the minimum amount of required races each day. With only the minimum amount of races each day any kind of unforeseen circumstance could easily make this minimum not possible. Kim stressed that time is of the essence if races are to be held in 2015. ***Don Stoker made a motion authorizing Kim to work with Kent Maher to make the changes in the letter to Don Jacklin, as discussed above, and get it sent off as soon as possible. Motion carried, 4-0.*** When completed, this letter will be sent to the WCVA Board, Ag District #3 Board and the recipients of Mr. Jacklin’s letter, plus members of the American Mule Racing Association.

9.5 TCF Concert, event update, for discussion only

Ticket sales have been a little slow and recently Kim has learned that some people are under the impression that the concert is sold out. He has planned some additional advertising in the newspaper and on the radio to let people know that there are still good seats available. Kim also hopes to have a letter to the editor in The Humboldt Sun encouraging people to step up and support this event so we can continue to bring these concerts to town during the fair. Right now, ticket sales are at \$58,485. There approximately 1,700 tickets still available. As a reminder, we need sales of \$110,000 to break even. We have two sponsors: Barrick (\$4,000) and Newmont (\$1,500). The concert promoters have notified Kim that Chris Young production people are bringing additional special effects for this show. It should be a great concert.

10. Secretary and Counsel, Monthly report.

10.1 Review monthly report, for discussion

Report for July was reviewed by Bill.

10.2 Chamber of Commerce report, for discussion

July 2014 Report was included in Bill's report.

10.3 Update on Intersection Beautification, Winnemucca Recreation project, Winnemucca Arts Center & Visitor Center, status of WCVA property which was damaged by storm, for review & discussion

Bill reported that he had included those matters in order to permit discussion at this meeting, if anyone so desired. Bill's comments on the status of WCVA property can be found in his packet, page 2.

10.4 Update on delinquencies, for discussion & possible action

Denio Junction Motel has not paid any room taxes in over a year despite notices prepared by Shelly, and later communication by Bill. Kendall will be traveling out there in the near future and will stop by to talk to the operator of the motel and see if they are renting rooms, which we believe they are. The owner was supposed to contact Bill to work on this, but has not.

10.5 Annual report on lodging tax revenues to Taxation, for discussion & possible action

No report.

10.6 Procedure request: Event close-down extension, for possible action

See item 9.2.

10.7 American Mule Racing Association request – Non-inclusion of mule racing in 2014 event calendar

See item 9.4.

10.8 Workers Comp Audit of 2013 event, for discussion & possible action

This audit was on the 2013 Mule Races. The auditor went through our records and found everything in good order.

11. Board Administrator.

11.1 July Financial Reports, for discussion

Room taxes continue to be well below previous years. From fiscal 12/13 to 13/14, Kendall estimates a decrease of 11%. Of course, some properties have seen decreases that are considerably more.

12. Other Business.

12.1 WCVA FY 2013/2014 audit

Kendall plans to start getting records together to get this audit started in the next few weeks.

12.2 Employee retirement

On August 12, Mario Orozco came into the Convention Center office and announced to Shelly that he was quitting, effective immediately. He turned in his keys and phone and headed to the courthouse. Later, Kim was notified that he was retiring and had been planning to do so for several months. Kim will come to the board at a future meeting with a plan to re-structure the maintenance personnel. He would like a “lead man” position that would supervise the other maintenance workers plus have some knowledge of basic electrical, construction, etc.

12.3 West Hall painting project

As everyone saw on their way into the West Hall today, the painting project is almost completed. Don suggested that the shapes that are painted in the dark red color should have their front surface painted a contrasting color to highlight them. The painters will work with Kim to see if this is something they want to work on or will just leave it the solid color. The building looks much better.

13. Regular Business. Next Meeting. The Board confirmed the next regular meeting date of Wednesday, September 17, 4:00 pm.

14. Adjourn. Don Stoker made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried, 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm 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 _____, 2014

As written _____

As corrected _____

Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority Board

TERRY BOYLE
Chairman and Hotel Representative

DAN CASSINELLI
County Representative

DON STOKER
Treasurer and Motel Representative

ABSENT
JIM BILLINGSLEY
City Representative

HERB ROSS
Vice Chairman & Business Representative

Attest:

BILL MACDONALD
Board Secretary and Counsel

KENDALL SWENSEN
Board Administrator