

Patty Herzog Vice Chairman and City Representative
 Rodd William Stowell Business Representative

Bill Macdonald Secretary and Counsel
 Kendall Swensen Board Administrator

Convention and Visitors Authority Board Officials Absent:
 Dan Cassinelli County Representative

Staff Members Present:
 Kim D. Petersen Convention & Visitors Authority Director
 Shelly Noble Administrative Clerk

Others Present:
 Michelle Urain WCVA

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Meeting Notice Report.

Chairman Boyle reported that notice, including meeting agenda, was posted by Shelly Noble by 9:00 am Monday, March 23, 2009 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 March 26, 2009 agenda, *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 unanimously, 4-0.*

6. General Business.

Review and approve the WCVA 3-year capital improvements plan.
Review and approve the WCVA long-range capital improvements plan.
Kendall pointed out that the taxation department's requirement is a 5-year capital improvement plan, not a 3-year. Consider proposal to pay off the remaining balances owed to the County on Winnemucca Events Complex projects.
Consider proposal to request County and City to amend their room tax provisions in HCO 3.15.020 and WMC 3.08.031, to replace the special city/county projects accommodations tax which sunsets on December 31, 2010 with an accommodations tax designated for special projects and capital improvements not to exceed the new Clark and Washoe tax rates.

Request that if the County decides to enact an amending ordinance that the ordinance also include those provisions of the County's Ordinance 8-19-96A which have been omitted by its code reviser from Chapter 32.16 Rental Business License of the Humboldt County Code.

This meeting was scheduled today after discussion at the regular meeting on March 18, 2009 on the process to keep our local room tax at 10% once the 2% portion "sunset" on December 31, 2010 and after our debts to the county have been paid in full. At that time, our room tax rate would go back to 8% if no action is taken. WCVA members would like to continue to collect this portion permanently to finance future projects that encourage tourism and promote this community. Discussion occurred because our state legislature passed a 13% room tax statute for Clark and Washoe counties after this ballot measure passed last November in these two counties. Any difference between what is currently being collected in these counties and the new 13% rate would go to the state general fund. Some southern senators would like to include the "cow" counties in this new law. There was some discussion of increasing our local room tax to 12% as a proactive measure in order to keep these funds local. Some board members expressed caution in doing this since, at this time, we have a healthy balance sheet. Also, some of the smaller properties may be hurt by a raise in the room tax rate since they have weekly rental rates that include room tax.

Kendall suggested that we take action to enact a new ordinance that would set the room tax rate at 10% for 2 years and then increase it to 12%. Since we operate on a fiscal year, it would be beneficial to have this take effect on July 1, 2009. If in two years (July 2011) it was felt that this increase was not necessary, we could repeal that portion of the ordinance and continue with the 10% room tax rate. Also, we are scheduled to pay off the covered arena in late summer or early fall of this year. We may want to pay off that amount entirely by June 30, 2009 so that we start with a "clean slate". In preparing this paperwork Bill and Kendall will include projects that have been discussed by this board, recognizing that there may be funding opportunities which come up in the future that are not even on our radar yet. Some of these projects are:

- 18-hole golf course
- East Hall renovations
- Visitor Center
- Car Museum
- Western Transportation Museum
- Additional softball & soccer facilities
- Fairgrounds improvements
- Major event sponsorships

Patty Herzog made a motion authorizing Bill Macdonald to reconstruct and prepare a room tax ordinance as outlined above. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Bill will contact Bill Deist and see if we can participate in a joint City/County meeting to discuss this on April 6.

Other Business. Discussion only.

1. West Hall hot water

Kim presented a proposal from Alan DuVall of A-1 Commercial Service Company on a plan of action to solve the continuing West Hall hot water problem. Alan proposed the addition of a new tank that would tie in to the boiler to supplement the current hot water heater. Cost for this would be \$7,300. Don requested that Kim research “on demand” hot water systems. He will do this and get back to the board with his findings.

2. Website

Michelle showed off the new WCVA website that went “live” about a month ago. There is a lot of information on it and board members were encouraged to take some time and look at it when they have a chance. Some of the business directory is not complete yet but we are working on it. All in all, it looks great.

7. Regular Business. Next Meeting. The Board confirmed the next regular meeting date of Wednesday, April 22, 2009.

8. Adjourn. *Don Stoker made a motion to adjourn this special meeting. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.* The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 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 _____, 2009

As written _____

As corrected _____

Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority Board

TERRY BOYLE
Chairman and Hotel Representative

PATTY HERZOG
Vice Chairman and City Representative

DON STOKER
Treasurer and Motel Representative

RODD WILLIAM STOWELL
Business Representative

ABSENT
DAN CASSINELLI
County Representative

Attest:

BILL MACDONALD
Counsel and Secretary

KENDALL SWENSEN
Board Administrator