

**Wind River Visitors Council (WRVC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 28, 2022**  
**Headwaters Arts and Conference Center, Dubois, WY**

**PRESENT:** Randy Lahr – Dubois; Hal Herron – Riverton; Helen Gordon – Hudson (via Zoom); Frank Welty – Dubois; Joel Highsmith – Shoshoni; Julie Buller – Riverton (via Zoom)

**ABSENT:** Owen Sweeney – Lander; Cy Lee – County; Krista Lobera – Lander; Kip Post – County

**WRVC STAFF:** Helen Wilson, Melanie Hoefle

**GUESTS:** Mayor John Meyer – Dubois; Leilani McCarthy – Dubois; Mayor Mike Anderson – Hudson; Gary Weisz – Shoshoni; Jared Baldes – Riverton; Representative Pepper Ottoman – Riverton

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Randy Lahr called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. A quorum was present.

**REVIEW & APPROVE AGENDA:** A request was made by Mayor John Meyer to move item number 10 on the Agenda (Revisit Digital Signs) to after the Treasurer’s Report, as this matter concerns the Town of Dubois and Mayor Meyer would not be able to attend the entire meeting. The Lander TAD report was tabled until September's Board Meeting due to the absence of Owen Sweeney, who would be providing the report. Hal Herron moved, and Helen Gordon seconded to approve the revised Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MAY 26, 2022 MINUTES:** Helen Gordon moved, and Hal Herron seconded to approve the Minutes as submitted. Frank Welty abstained from the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 16, 2022 MINUTES:** Helen Gordon moved, and Hal Herron seconded to approve the Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Helen Gordon presented the Treasurer’s Report.

- A. The Board asked a few questions about the Statement of Activities section of the Financial Report, and Helen Gordon and Helen Wilson explained.
- B. Frank Welty moved, seconded by Hal Herron, to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Given the Board turnover and the need for new bank account signers, Helen Gordon (WRVC Treasurer) recommended Helen Gordon, Krista Lobera, Kip Post, and Owen

Sweeney as the Wind River Visitors Council's new bank account signers. Helen Gordon moved, and Joel Highsmith seconded to approve the recommended signers. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Helen Gordon requested that a committee be formed to review a CPA scope of work and a Request for Proposals. Joel Highsmith volunteered to be part of the committee, and Helen Wilson said that she'd send additional information to the full Board of Directors to give people the opportunity to participate in the committee.

**REVISIT DIGITAL SIGNS:** Due to connectivity issues in Dubois, the digital sign that the WRVC purchased last fiscal year still isn't working. Lander has expressed an interest in acquiring this sign. Leilani McCarthy will contact WYDOT to see if they can provide feedback on what has worked for their signs. Dubois would like to explore options to get the sign working before giving it to Lander. Two other signs were purchased by the Wind River Visitors Council and were put in Lander and Shoshoni. These signs are both functioning.

**TAD REPORTS (Dubois, Hudson):**

- A. Randy Lahr presented the 2021/2022 TAD report for Dubois.
- B. Helen Gordon presented the 2021/2022 TAD report for Hudson.

**FY 2022/2023 JOINT POWERS BUDGET:** The FY 2022/2023 Joint Powers Budget is complete, with the towns of Dubois, Hudson and Shoshoni, the cities of Lander and Riverton and the Fremont County Commissioners in approval.

**REVISIT RIVERTON ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:** Helen Wilson recommended that the accounts receivable that has been deducted from the Riverton TAD checks since 2017 be removed. Julie Buller moved, seconded by Helen Gordon, to delete the remaining balance. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE TEAM SECRETARY RECOMMENDATION:** There were two motions made for the new secretary (Julie Buller and Hal Herron). The recommendations were revoked due to a low number of voting Members that were present. Frank Welty moved, seconded by Joel Highsmith, to table the discussion for the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Helen Wilson presented the Director's Report.

- A. Helen discussed the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Grant. The WRVC is meeting with committees and groups to discuss projects and help with the application process.
- B. Helen talked about the economic benefits of the Wind River Rally, as well as social media statistics, the Continental Divide Trail Gateway Community Designation

Ceremony, Wind River Indian Reservation Interpretive Plan projects and shared a new promotional video that features Riverton.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- A. Frank Welty shared his concern that driving access to Yellowstone National Park will become limited and that the park may switch to shuttling services. He suggested that the Board explore opportunities that address this concern.
- B. Gary Weisz spoke about the Desert Inn Motel being sold and renovated. In addition, he shared that an individual is looking to open a new restaurant in Shoshoni and is welcoming any donations.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Hoefle.