

Wind River Visitors Council (WRVC) Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2026
Lander Library, Lander

PRESENT: Anne Even – Lander; Dave Furman – Dubois; Charene Herrera – County; Hal Herron – Riverton; Krista Lobera – Lander; Suzanne Osegueda – Dubois; Erika Yarber – County (via Zoom at 10:09 a.m.); Jay Merritt – Shoshoni

ABSENT: None

WRVC STAFF: Helen Wilson, Rubie Ratliff, Alex Watts

GUESTS: Cindy Olson-Roden – Riverton Chamber and Visitors Center

CALL TO ORDER: Board President Krista Lobera called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA: Hal Herron moved to amend item 10 of the agenda to say “Joint Powers Agreement Update and Potential Vote.” Dave Furman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dave Furman moved to approve the amended agenda. Suzanne Osegueda seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

FY 2026/2027 PROPOSED BUDGET: Hal Herron moved to open the public budget hearing. Suzanne Osegueda seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

As there were no comments or questions on the budget, Hal Herron moved to close the public budget hearing. Charene Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 BUDGET: Hal Herron moved to approve the fiscal year 2026/2027 budget as presented. Suzanne Osegueda seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 26, 2026 MINUTES: The Board discussed language in the March 26, 2026 minutes regarding the preparation of resolutions related to actions taken at the previous meeting. Members noted that significant discussions had occurred since that meeting, including conversations with mayors and legal counsel representing the Wind River Visitors Council and the Joint Powers Agreement member entities. As a

result of those ongoing discussions, the anticipated resolutions had not yet been prepared for Board consideration. Members agreed that the minutes should clarify that the resolutions would be prepared for consideration at the May 28, 2026 meeting.

Dave Furman moved to amend the March 26, 2026 meeting minutes to reflect the clarification discussed. Hal Herron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Hal Herron moved to approve the March 26, 2026 minutes as amended. Dave Furman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Helen Wilson presented the Treasurer's Report. Board members asked questions about the Statement of Activities. Helen Wilson will seek clarification from the accountant regarding a potential labeling discrepancy identified in the financial statements.

Hal Herron moved to approve the Financial Report as presented. Dave Furman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Review CPA Engagement Letter: Hal Herron moved to approve the CPA Engagement Letter as presented. Dave Furman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Board members discussed auditor engagement practices and whether periodic auditor rotation or solicitation of proposals may be required. Helen Wilson will seek guidance regarding any applicable requirements.

EXECUTIVE TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027: The current Executive Team, consisting of Hal Herron and Krista Lobera made recommendations for the Executive Team for fiscal year 2026 to 2027. The following recommendations were made:

Krista Lobera—President
Erika Yarber—Vice President
Hal Herron—Treasurer
Charene Herrera—Secretary

APPOINTMENT OF SIGNERS: The Board discussed updating the authorized signer list to reflect current Board members and organizational needs.

Jay Merritt moved to remove Helen Gordon and Bryce House as authorized signers and to add Charene Herrera and Hal Herron as authorized signers. Anne Even seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF WAYFINDING MOU WITH THE CITY OF LANDER: Helen Wilson presented the draft wayfinding MOU with the City of Lander. Legal counsel recommended adding "as-is" language and an indemnification provision clarifying that, following transfer of the signage, the City would assume responsibility and indemnify the Wind River Visitors Council from future liability related to the signs.

Board members discussed the proposed revisions and recommended that the indemnification language also include protection for the Board and its directors. Staff will incorporate the recommended revisions and circulate the updated draft for legal review.

Hal Herron moved to authorize Helen Wilson to execute the MOU with the City of Lander upon approval by legal counsel for all parties. Suzanne Osegueda seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TAD DISTRIBUTION UPDATES (LANDER AND SHOSHONI): Helen Wilson provided an update regarding the administration of Tourism Asset Development (TAD) funds. Beginning July 1, 2026, TAD distributions for Shoshoni will be directed to the Shoshoni Chamber of Commerce. TAD distributions for Lander will be directed to the City of Lander rather than the Lander Chamber of Commerce, effective immediately.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT AMENDMENT AND POTENTIAL VOTE: Helen Wilson provided an update regarding ongoing discussions among legal counsel representing the Wind River Visitors Council, Fremont County and the Joint Powers Agreement member entities. Attorneys continue to work toward proposed amendments to the Joint Powers Agreement and are expected to present revised language after consulting with their respective governing bodies.

Board members discussed recent communications with municipal officials as well as the progress being made toward a mutually agreeable amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement. Discussion also included the budget approval process, compliance with the Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act and the importance of maintaining positive relationships with member entities while the amendment process continues.

In good faith that the attorneys representing the municipalities, Fremont County and the Wind River Visitors Council would continue working toward an agreed-upon amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement, Hal Herron moved to rescind the motions approved by

the Board at the March 26, 2026 meeting related to Joint Powers Agreement amendments, budget procedures and Tourism Asset Development (TAD) distributions. Jay Merritt seconded the motion.

The motion carried, with Dave Furman voting in opposition and Anne Even and Suzanne Osegueda abstaining.

DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROJECT DISCUSSION: Helen Wilson discussed potential projects for future Destination Development Program funding and recommended the formation of a committee to identify and evaluate project opportunities.

Potential projects discussed included a trail connection between the Riverton Heritage Center and the 1838 Rendezvous Grounds, as well as continued pathway improvements in Lander following completion of the wayfinding signage project in Hudson and Shoshoni.

Anne Even, Charene Herrera, Krista Lobera, Suzanne Osegueda and Helen Wilson volunteered to serve on the committee.

MARKETING PLAN: Helen Wilson presented the Wind River Visitors Council Fiscal Year 2026–2027 Marketing Plan and reviewed the organization's marketing priorities, strategies and planned initiatives for the upcoming fiscal year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Cindy Olsen-Roden expressed appreciation for the wayfinding signage installed in Riverton and reported increased visitor traffic at the Riverton Chamber and Visitors Center since its installation.

Cindy also shared information regarding investment practices used by the Riverton Chamber and Visitors Center and discussed the use of ladder certificates of deposit.

In addition, Cindy inquired about the Wayfinding MOU with the City of Lander and whether similar agreements would be considered with other municipalities. Helen Wilson explained that staff intends to finalize the agreement language with the City of Lander before pursuing similar agreements elsewhere.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, Hal Herron moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Furman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.