

RED WILLOW COUNTY VISITORS COMMITTEE

January 5, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Keystone Business Center Training Room

Minutes

Presiding: Daniel Stramel
Present: Daniel Stramel, Curtis Smith, Dawna Bates by Zoom and Carol Schlegel
Absent: Tyler Loop and Dan Ebers
Guests: Garrett Nokes, Kiplinger Foundation and Jiles Bowman, Red Willow County Fair Manager

Call to Order: **Daniel Stramel** called the Red Willow County Visitors Committee (RWCVC) meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Open Meeting Act: Open Meeting Act was available for review.

Minutes: There was a motion made by **Curtis** and seconded by **Dawna** to approve the December 8, 2020 minutes. Motion carried 3/0.

Financial Status:

Balance in Promotion Fund as of December 31, 2020 =	\$ 75,744.74
Balance in Improvement Fund as of December 31, 2020 =	\$ 75,226.28
Balance in Promotion Fund Budget as of December 31, 2020 =	\$ 126,729.86
Balance in Improvement Fund Budget as of Dec 31, 2020 =	\$ 96,000.00
Petty Cash Fund as of December 31, 2020 =	\$ 67.54

The agenda was suspended to allow for the presentation of an Improvement Grant application by **Garrett Nokes**, representing the Kiplinger Foundation, and **Jiles Bowman**, Red Willow County Fair Manager.

New Business: Improvement Grant Application

- Kiplinger Foundation
Project: Red Willow County Fairgrounds Alice Building Addition
Amount Requested: \$ 60,000.00 (\$12,000.00 per year over five (5) years)
The Kiplinger Foundation requested Improvement Funds to build a 12,000 square foot addition to the Alice Building at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds. The new addition will include space within the Alice Building for competitive runs, concession areas, spectator seating and equine events including barrel racing competitions and team roping schools.
Currently, the Alice Building is primarily used for rodeo practice, clinics and riding. Once the addition is built, the Alice could produce larger events like team roping and barrel races. While the building can technically hold equine events, safety is a concern amongst organizers and event participants. During competitions it is important for horses to remain inside the building while the events are happening, however it's not safe to have horses inside the arena while competitive runs are happening.
In requesting, \$60,000.00, to be paid in \$12,000.00 installments over the next five (5) years, the Kiplinger Foundation is starting their fundraising to move forward with this \$386,974 project.
Discussion was held concerning the logistics of awarding this grant since we have not had a multi-year commitment in the past. Our grant process allows for this type of grant. Due to the relative uncertainty of how much revenue will be collected each year, any commitment would be dependent on the availability of funds. Carol will research and develop an agreement to cover those conditions. A motion was made by **Curtis** to approve the grant application presented by Kiplinger Foundation in the amount of \$60,000.00 to be paid in \$12,000.00

installments over five (5) years with the understanding that it is dependent on the availability of funds. The motion was seconded by **Dawna**. Motion passed 3/0.

Garrett and Jiles left the meeting and the agenda was resumed.

Old Business: **Birding Challenge** – The Challenge is available on VisitMcCook.com but is too early to see any results.

Director's Report: **2020-2021 Nebraska Tourism Marketing Grant** – The Marketing Grant was submitted and announcements are to be made on February 1 as to whether or not we will be awarded our request.

New Business: **Facility Rental Grant Application**

- 2021 Triangle Cross Winter Series Finale (2nd application)
Date: March 27-28, 2021 Amount Requested: \$ 1,500.00

After discussion, a motion was made by **Curtis** and seconded by **Dawna** to approve the requested \$1,500.00 grant for the 2021 Triangle Cross Winer Series Finale. Motion carried 3/0.

Approval of Claim: The following claims were submitted for payment.

Claim Summary – Promotion Fund 0990 879

Visa Bill

• 2-1751 Adobe Subscription	56.70
2-1751 HonorboundIT Service Plan	25.00
2-6000 December Wages and 2020 Bonus	7,333.33
2-6040 MEDC – Rent, Utilities, Internet – Jan-Mar	<u>756.00</u>
	\$ 8,171.03

A motion was made by **Dawna** to pay the claims as presented. The motion was seconded by **Curtis**. Motion carried 3/0.

Other Business from Committee:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Schlegel
Director