

RED WILLOW COUNTY VISITORS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

3:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Boardroom, Keystone Business Center

Minutes

Presiding: Daniel Stramel
Present: Bill Lesko, Kerri Unger, Andrea Harms and Carol Schlegel
Absent: Tyler Loop
Guest: Sarah Schneider, Director McCook Chamber of Commerce

Call to Order: **Daniel Stramel** called the Red Willow County Visitors Committee (RWCVC) meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

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

Sarah Schneider, Director of the McCook Chamber of Commerce, introduced herself and informed the Committee of yearly events and this year's efforts to rebrand Crazy Dayz and combining it with Wagner's Cruise Night and Bash on the Hills.

Minutes: There was a motion made by **Kerri** and seconded by **Bill** to approve the March 5, 2024 minutes. Motion carried 4/0.

Financial Status:

Balance in Promotion Fund as of March 31, 2024 =	\$ 50,867.08
Balance in Improvement Fund as of March 31, 2024 =	\$ 258,439.86
Balance in Promotion Fund Budget as of March 31, 2024 =	\$ 72,498.56
Balance in Improvement Fund Budget as of Mar 31, 2024=	\$ 275,623.00

Old Business: **Pure Nebraska** – **Carol** hosted **Grace McDonald** while she was in town doing stories on Prairie Chicken Dance Tours and the Creative District. She was able to interview **Ronda Graff** and **Matt Sehnert** with the Creative District, **Wes McCollam** with the mural project and **Lucas Kotschwar** with **6th Floor Project** and **ArtBank**. She is interested in returning when **Chad Graff** and **Joann Falkenburg** are available for more in depth stories on the art galleries. The Prairie Chicken story has aired, and **Carol** will be notified with the Creative District one will be on.

Director's Report: **Prairie Chicken Dance Tours** – **Carol** reported that the season has gone well, despite weather issues and that there were three tours remaining. **UNL Journalism Rural Intern Program** – **Carol** along with several other organizations, has been contacted by the UNL Journalism Department to participate in an intern program this summer. UNL will cover the housing costs. Local participating organizations will be required to provide salaries which would be approximately \$7,200 per intern. **Carol** will be attending a meeting with the MEDC, Chamber, Foundation, Schools and Hospital to discuss how we can make this work as a community. The Committee discussed committing \$3,600 to the program.

New Business: **Sponsorship Request**

- Southwest Nebraska High School Rodeo
Dates: April 19-21, 2024 Amount Requested: \$1,500.00

After discussion, a motion was made by **Bill** and seconded by **Kerri** to approve the requested amount of \$1,500.00 for the High School Rodeo. Motion carried 4/0

Facility Rental Grant Request

- Nebraska NBHA “Falling into Spring” Barrel Race
Dates: April 13-14, 2024 Amount Requested: \$1,500.00
After discussion a motion was made by **Kerri** and seconded by **Bill** to approve the requested amount of \$1,500.00 for the NBHA “Falling into Spring” Barrel Race. Motion carried 4/0
- Nebraska NBHA 3 Can Jam
Dates: June 1-2, 2024 Amount Requested: \$1,060.00
After discussion a motion was made by **Andrea** and seconded by **Bill** to approve the requested amount of \$1,060.00 for the NBHA 3 Can Jam. Motion carried 4/0

Computer Replacement – Carol reported that she is experiencing significant issues with her computer and urgently needing to replace it. Motion was made by **Andrea** and seconded by **Kerri** to approve the purchase. Motion carried 4/0.

Other Business from the Committee

Kerri proposed a change to the meeting time for the Visitors Committee to better accommodate the members. After discussion it was decided to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. beginning with the May meeting.

Approval of Claims: The following claims were submitted for payment:

Claim Summary – Promotion Fund 0990 879

Visa Statement

• 2-1751 Adobe Subscription	64.49	64.49
2-1751HonorboundIT Service Plan		25.00
2-6000 March Wages		4,091.67
MEDC		
• 2-2000 Phone & Internet	210.00	
• 2-6040 Rent & Utilities		
April/June & Feb/March Adj	1,821.00	
• 2-6040 Kyle Kinne Wages – Jan/Mar	894.00	2,925.00
2-6070 SW Nebraska High School Rodeo Sponsorship		<u>1,500.00</u>
		8,606.16

A motion was made by **Bill** to pay the claims as presented with the inclusion of the Southwest Nebraska High School Rodeo sponsorship that was approved previously during the meeting. The motion was seconded by **Andrea**. Motion carried 4/0

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Carol Schlegel