

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LODGERS' TAX ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 101 N. HALAGUENO, CARLSBAD, NM ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013 AT 7:30 A.M.

Voting Members Present: Neil Wiggins, Dale Balzano, Jill Fowler

Voting Members Absent: Dr. Dara, and Bob Lynch

Also Present:

Steve McCutcheon	City Administrator
Dale Janway	Mayor
Cheyenne Methola	Executive Assistant
Nadine Mireles	Deputy City Clerk
Robert Defer	Chamber of Commerce
Lisa Boeke	Chamber of Commerce

0:00:08 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Neil Wiggins called the meeting to order.

0:00:09 2. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Wiggins called Roll and it was determined that there was a Quorum of the Voting Members. Present were: Neil Wiggins, Jill Fowler, and Dale Balzano; Absent: Dr. Dara, and Bob Lynch.

0:00:41 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to approve the October 15, 2013, Agenda. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and Bob Lynch. The Motion passed.

0:00:51 4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF CARLSBAD LODGERS TAX ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD August 21, 2013

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to approve the August 21, 2013, Meeting Minutes. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and Bob Lynch. The Motion passed.

0:01:16 5. DISCUSSION REGARDING MEETING DATES AND TIME

Chairman Wiggins said it had been brought to the Board's attention that Dr. Dara cannot make 7:30 a.m. meetings. Mr. Wiggins explained that Bob Lynch has now missed the last two but Mr. Lynch had said he could make the 7:30 a.m. meetings. Mr. Wiggins asked the members present if 7:30 a.m. meetings worked for them. Both Fowler and Balzano agreed that the meeting time worked for them.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to keep the 7:30 a.m. meeting time on the first Tuesday of each month. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and Bob Lynch. The Motion passed.

0:02:32 6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MAINSTREET QUARTERLY REPORT

Chairman Wiggins explained that there was not a printed report from MainStreet and there was not a representative present so the report would be tabled until a later date.

0:03:09:0 7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FROM THE CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lisa Boeke distributed Christmas on the Pecos brochures. She explained that after 22 years of promotion of the event, they feel it is time to take it to the next level. She said they have received donations for lights at the facility and they are planning to use previously received Lodgers Tax Funding to purchase more lights. She said they have started advertising early, due to the Caverns closure. She said they have already booked 15 groups and there are 376 bookings. Ms. Boeke said the Chamber of Commerce is requesting an additional \$25,000 in Lodgers Tax Funds. Mr. Balzano said many people come to Carlsbad for this event, he feels it is a very important event for our community.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to grant the request for \$25,000. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and BobLynch. The Motion passed.

Monica Harris asked for clarification on the request because the event had already been approved for funding to advertise the event. She said she has concerns with the previous funding being used for something other than promotion. She asked Ms. Boeke work with the Finance Department to make sure it follows the Lodgers Tax Guidelines.

Chairman Wiggins asked to amend the motion to state that the request for \$25,000 be granted if it meets the Lodgers Tax Guidelines.

0:08:42 The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to grant the request for \$25,000 subject to meeting the Lodgers Tax Guidelines. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and BobLynch. The Motion passed.

0:08:58 8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FROM HIGH PLAINS JUNIOR RODEO ASSOCIATION

Chairman Wiggins said there was not a representative present to make the request for the High Plains Junior Rodeo Association. He said Mr. Smith attended the last meeting where there was no Quorum. Mr. Wiggins said the information is in the packet.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Fowler to grant the request for \$2,500. The Vote was as follows: Yes: Wiggins, Fowler, and Balzano, No: None. Absent: Dr. Dara and BobLynch. The Motion passed.

0:09:40 Dale Balzano said he had a call from the Governor's office regarding the closure of the Carlsbad Caverns. He said the spokesperson for the said the Governor did not open the Caverns and White Sands in Alamogordo because she felt there was no need from southern New Mexico. He said she did not know it was affecting our community in a negative way. Mr. Balzano said the person the spokesperson suggested that we need to let them know that there is a problem. He said he has lost reservations because of the closure. It has had a drastic effect on his business. He said he called other local hotels and found they were experiencing the same thing. He said he would like to propose a Resolution to the Council and Mayor to convey the concerns to the Governor. Mr. Wiggins said that could be added to the next Agenda but could not be approved at this meeting because the item was not on the Agenda. Mayor Janway said his office has been in contact with both the Governor and Lt. Governor and he agrees that we need make our concerns known.

Mayor Janway thanked the Board Members for all their work on the Lodgers Tax Board. He thanked Jill Fowler, the newest member for serving on the Board.

0:13:52 9. ADJOURN (7:53 A.M.)

/S/ Neil Wiggins
Chairman