

**Wasatch County Parks & Recreation SSD #21  
Board Meeting  
December 12, 2023  
Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Kendall Crittenden, Chairman  
Karl McMillan, Vice-Chairman  
Steve Farrell, Board Member  
Mark Nelson, Board Member  
Spencer Park, Board Member

Tom Bonner, Director  
Heath Coleman, Asst. Director  
Amaria Scovil, Rec. Center Director  
Taylor Baker, Program Director  
Laurie Duke, Admin. Assistant  
Travis Dial, IT Specialist

**Excused:**

Erik Rowland, Board Member – (Arrived 3:25 p.m.)  
Luke Searle, Board Member – (Attended Public Hearing 6:00 p.m.)

Kendall Crittenden called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

**Minutes: November 14, 2023**

Tom Bonner presented the minutes. The minutes could not be approved because we did not have a majority in attendance that were present at the November 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Kendall asked if there were any public issues for future meetings. There were none.

Kendall asked if there were any governing board issues for future meetings. There were none.

Kendall asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

**Warrants:**

Tom Bonner presented the warrants for November 10, 2023 through December 1, 2023 in the amount of \$89,442.89.

Mark Nelson made a motion to approve the warrants for November 10, 2023 through December 1, 2023 in the amount of \$89,442.89. Spencer Park seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

|      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| AYE: | Kendall Crittenden |
| AYE: | Karl McMillan      |
| AYE: | Steve Farrell      |
| AYE: | Mark Nelson        |
| AYE: | Spencer Park       |

NAY: None

ABSENT: Erik Rowland  
Luke Searle

### **2024 Budget Discussion:**

Tom explained that there were two copies of the proposed 2024 Budget in their packets. The first one showed Truth in Taxation and the second one is the one we will propose tonight at the Public Hearing which does not reflect Truth in Taxation. It shows additional funds in County Fund 44, which is the transient room tax. Kendall clarified that we will not be asking for Truth in Taxation at the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. tonight and Tom said that was correct. Tom stated that the only resolution we will need to do tonight is 23-06, approving the 2024 budget, because now we are not increasing the tax rate and we don't have any 2023 budget amendments. Spencer commented that since they are on the agenda we still need to address them and Tom said that was correct.

Mark asked about the expenses of building Cowboy Village, if they were reflected in this budget summary and Tom responded that this summary is primarily operation expenses and maintenance. There isn't any capital improvements in this budget, as all of our facilities are owned by the county except Southfield Park. Tom reminded them that these numbers are only a summary, there is a complete detailed budget with everything listed that he can provide to them.

Spencer noted that most of the program numbers stayed the same except gymnastics which dropped drastically. Tom explained that we are not doing a contracted employee any more. Our gymnastics instructor decided to go out on his own, so now we are just doing introductory sessions. Mark asked about the various programs if there are some that they love doing and some they don't and Tom answered that yes, some programs are easier to run, but that all of our programs have value. He explained that we try to accommodate everyone. He stated that they look closely at the viability of each program, to make sure that it funds itself and that we have good participation numbers. Each program is reviewed on a yearly basis.

Steve asked if we are still involved with the Little Wasp Wrestling Program and Jr. Jazz and Tom responded that we no longer do the sign-ups for the wrestling. That is all taken care of by the high school now. We still run the Jr. Jazz Program, which will start right after the first of the year.

Mark asked about our relationship with the high school and Tom answered that we have exchange of services, we use their fields, track, and auditorium and have a great relationship with the school district. Mark also asked if we have any connections with Soldier Hollow and Tom said that yes they will be coming to get our bleachers next week for their World Cup Events and they always use them for the Sheep Dog Trials and then they let us use their barricade system for the fair.

Kendall asked if we were still doing the Ski School Program and Tom said that we are and that it is more popular than ever. On the day of registration, people started lining up at the Rec. Center about 2 hours in advance to make sure they got a spot. Tom joked that when he walked into the Rec. Center that morning you would have thought Taylor Swift concert tickets were on sale!

Mark asked if we have enough pickle ball courts to do tournaments now and Tom replied that we do.

Kendall asked if there were any other questions on the budget. There weren't any so Kendall said that we will continue that item at the Public Hearing tonight.

**Resolution 23-03 Setting the Parks & Recreation SSD #21 Meeting Schedule for 2024:**

Tom read the resolution that the Parks & Recreation Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the County Administration Office, 25 N Main Street, Heber.

Steve Farrell made a motion to accept Resolution 23-03 as presented. Mark Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Kendall Crittenden  
AYE: Karl McMillan  
AYE: Steve Farrell  
AYE: Mark Nelson  
AYE: Spencer Park  
AYE: Erik Rowland

NAY: None  
ABSENT: Luke Searle

**Appointment of new Advisory Board Member:**

Tom reported that a little over a month ago Ken Mickelsen moved, which left a vacancy on our Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Tom stated that when he published the agenda he had one applicant. He has since heard from a couple more, but the one who had applied was former councilman, Danny Goode. Tom would like to ask that he be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Tom commented that yesterday he spoke with Dallin Koecher, who expressed interest, and he told him to fill out an application for any future vacancies.

Kendall asked if there was any discussion. Mark stated that he thought Danny was a great choice.

Spencer Park made a motion to appoint Danny Goode as the seventh member of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Steve seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Kendall Crittenden  
AYE: Karl McMillan  
AYE: Steve Farrell  
AYE: Mark Nelson  
AYE: Spencer Park  
AYE: Erik Rowland

NAY: None  
ABSENT: Luke Searle

Steve asked how the meetings went in Las Vegas the past week and if there were any changes that would affect us and Tom responded that the meetings were productive and that we will need to up our prize money. Steve thought we did that last year, but Tom said that we did not. Tom is thinking we will need about \$80,000. more this year, but he feels we can cover this by utilizing our sponsor & advertising new position and other rodeo revenues. Steve asked what happens if we don't raise the prize money and Tom replied that we won't be able to keep the big name contestants. Steve

commented that most people don't know anything about the contestants and Tom agreed but he said the spectators do recognize quality. He said that the most complaints he ever got about our rodeo was when D & H Cattle brought their bulls and not one contestant rode the whole rodeo.

Tom stated that a decision has not been made yet and we have until February 15<sup>th</sup> to decide what we want to do. There was a lengthy discussion on the pros and cons of raising the prize money and our rodeos in the future. Tom said that he found out that the busiest weekend for rodeos in our part of the country is the first weekend in August which is when our rodeo is. He said they are looking at maybe going to a two-header, but there are pros and cons with that. There will be more in-depth discussions before the February deadline, but Tom feels confident that we will be able to cover the \$80,000. needed. Steve commented that we also need to remember the revenue brought into the whole community through the rodeo. Tom replied that goes for all of our events.

Steve asked what our biggest return is for the Event Center and arena and Tom answered it is probably the two UBRA events due to stall rental. Tom said that the events that fill the stall barn bring the biggest return. Steve asked if there is a need for additional stalls and Tom replied, yes, there is.

Kendall asked for a motion to continue this meeting if there weren't any other questions or comments.

Mark Nelson made a motion to continue this meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Hearing. Karl McMillan seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

|      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| AYE: | Kendall Crittenden |
| AYE: | Karl McMillan      |
| AYE: | Steve Farrell      |
| AYE: | Mark Nelson        |
| AYE: | Spencer Park       |
| AYE: | Erik Rowland       |

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| NAY:    | None        |
| ABSENT: | Luke Searle |

Meeting was closed at 3:50 p.m.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Kendall Crittenden reconvened the meeting at 6:12 p.m. All council members were in attendance.

### **Discussion/Consideration of Resolution 23-04 approving the Parks & Recreation SSD#21 Tax Rate:**

Tom explained that due to discussions with the County Council and County Manager's office we are going to forego doing Resolution 23-04 for the tax rate. We have found funds in a different area so we will not be doing Truth in Taxation this year.

**Discussion/Consideration of Resolution 23-06 approving the 2024 Parks & Recreation SSD#21**

**Budget:**

Tom presented the proposed 2024 Parks & Recreation Budget with revenues of \$5,891,906. And expenditures of \$5,891,906.

Tom explained that the biggest increase is from the Wage Study and an additional five employees which is included in the Parks & Recreation line item. Everything else is pretty much status quo. There is a little bit of growth with both the Derby and Rodeo and a few of our programs exceeded our expectations this year so revenues have gone up again this year.

Kendall asked if there were any questions on the proposed budget. There were none.

Kendall opened the Public Hearing for questions or comments from anyone either in attendance or online. There were none. Kendall closed the Public Hearing.

Kendall again asked the council if there were any other questions. Luke Searle asked about the decrease in Gymnastics, as he was not in attendance earlier. Tom explained that our gymnastics instructor decided to go out on his own and so now we are only offering introductory sessions. Tom explained that this program, like most of our programs, is basically a pass-through account so it doesn't really affect the operation and maintenance of the department.

Karl McMillan made a motion to accept Resolution 23-06 to approve the 2024 Parks & Recreation SSD#21 Budget. Mark Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously with the following vote:

|      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| AYE: | Kendall Crittenden |
| AYE: | Karl McMillan      |
| AYE: | Steve Farrell      |
| AYE: | Mark Nelson        |
| AYE: | Spencer Park       |
| AYE: | Erik Rowland       |
| AYE: | Luke Searle        |

**Discussion/Consideration of Resolution 23-05 approving the 2023 Parks & Recreation SSD#21**

**Budget Amendments:**

Tom stated for the public record that we do not have any 2023 Budget Amendments so we do not have to do Resolution 23-05.

Kendall asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Steve Farrell made a motion to adjourn. Spencer Park seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.