

**Wasatch County Parks & Recreation SSD #21
Board Meeting
August 8, 2023
Minutes**

Attendance:

Kendall Crittenden, Chairman
Karl McMillan, Vice-Chairman
Steve Farrell, Board Member
Spencer Park, Board Member
Erik Rowland, Board Member
Luke Searle, Board Member

Tom Bonner, Director
Heath Coleman, Asst. Director
Amaria Scovil, Rec. Center Director
Taylor Baker, Programs Director
Laurie Duke, Admin. Assistant
Dustin Grabau, County Manager
Travis Dial, IT Specialist

Excused:

Mark Nelson, Board Member

Kendall Crittenden called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

Minutes: July 11, 2023

Tom Bonner presented the minutes. Erik Rowland made a motion to approve the minutes for July 11, 2023. Karl McMillan seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Karl McMillan
AYE: Spencer Park
AYE: Erik Rowland

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Steve Farrell & Luke Searle (Absent on July 11, 2023)
ABSENT: Mark Nelson

Warrants:

Tom Bonner presented the warrants for July 7, 2023 through August 2, 2023 in the amount of \$381,560.40. Tom explained that the UHSRA should have also been marked as a pass-thru item because we get between \$60,000. to \$65,000. with camping and stall rental. He mentioned the other two big amounts showing as pass-thru items are Destructive Behavior for the Derby prize money and PRCA for the Rodeo prize money. Kendall asked if there were any other questions on the warrants. There were none.

Steve Farrell made a motion to approve the warrants for July 7, 2023 through August 2, 2023 in the amount of \$381,560.40. Luke Searle seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Karl McMillan
AYE: Steve Farrell
AYE: Spencer Park
AYE: Erik Rowland
AYE: Luke Searle

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mark Nelson

Fair Days Update:

Kendall thanked Tom and his staff for a great Fair Days. Tom reported that it was an interesting year for the fair due to the weather. Tom reported that we will have to refund ticket sales of about \$36,000. for the Thursday night Rodeo. Kendall asked if we were able to convert any of those sales to the Friday night Rodeo and Tom responded that we had about 1,100 tickets left for Friday and they went very quickly. Steve also asked about an option to transfer those tickets to the Wilderness Circuit Finals Rodeo and Tom answered that yes Jodi would be giving them that option. Tom stated that we would be starting refunds on Thursday, August 10th.

Tom reported that on Wednesday afternoon the stage tent came down due to the weather and everything had to be moved to the berm, but it worked out okay because we still had a lot of people in attendance. We served almost 800 meals which was our highest attendance we have had for the BBQ. Kendall asked if we rent the tents and asked about insurance for that and Tom explained that we rent them from Diamond Rental and insurance is covered in our fee so it will cover the cost of the tent. Tom commented that the canvas was fine, but the aluminum poles were damaged.

Tom stated that the crew worked really hard and, once they got about 30 truckloads of mud out of the arena, the rodeo went well on Friday night. Steve asked if we still have to pay everyone for Thursday night since the rodeo was cancelled and Tom answered that we do. We still have to pay Powder River, the announcer, clown, specialty act and V6 Media. Our contract states that we have to pay even in inclement weather. Steve asked if we got any discount and Tom reported that Dennis Halstead, the rodeo clown, reduced his price and they will negotiate with V6 Media to see if they will discount their price. Tom commented that in all his 28 years he has only seen the arena unusable twice.

Tom reported that bills are coming in and that he will be able to give them a complete financial report on the fair at our meeting in October. He commented that the Livestock Sale went very well and Steve agreed.

Tom publicly thanked all of his staff from his directors, to his seasonal and part-time employees. He said that with all the unforeseen circumstances they did a great job. He thanked the council for their help with serving at the Party in the Park and at the BBQ.

Steve asked why the fireworks happen before the last heat of the Derby. Tom explained that the cars that get to come back from the Grudge Match need a little extra time to get their cars ready. Spencer commented that it keeps people in their seats while it is dark. Tom also commented that after the championship heat so many people rush into the arena that it is better to have the lights on at the end. Kendall said that the aisle lights help for people who do leave during the fireworks.

Tom commented that if we really wanted to spend some money we could convert to LED lights. That way the lights would be able to be turned off and come right back on, but even though the cost is coming down, it would still be very expensive. Luke commented that the energy efficiency of LED lighting would help to pay for it and Tom agreed. Steve asked if we would be able to get a grant and Tom said that we can definitely look into that. Tom said that he will get some information together on this and bring it back to the council. Tom stated that we did change to LED lighting in the Event Center, Rec. Center, Stall Barn, Maintenance Shop and the Warm up Arena.

Steve asked if we used the new RV camping and how it went and Tom responded that it was awesome. With all the rain, we did have some standing water in the stall barn so we are working on a plan to take care of that, but the RV campground was great.

Erik asked if we are thinking about incorporating some Cowboy Poetry events into fair days. Tom said facility-wise that would be hard for us. Tom suggested that if they did it to coincide with the Wilderness Circuit Finals it would be beneficial for everyone. The Wilderness Circuit Finals Rodeo is held the first weekend in November. There are three shows: Friday, November 3rd, in the evening, and Saturday Nov. 4th, matinee and evening.

Steve asked how we handled the riders that paid an entry fee for Thursday's rodeo and Tom responded that it is handled through the PRCA. They pay their fees to the PRCA so the judges dictate the ground rules when it comes to inclement weather and notify the PRCA. Tom thinks they probably move their fees to the next rodeo. Steve clarified that we don't get any money for the contestant's entry fees and Tom confirmed that. The contestant's entry fees go towards the added prize money. Tom stated that the PRCA has a rule that a cancelled rodeo has to be made up in 48 hours. Tom said that they looked at every option. They even looked into holding the rodeo on Sunday, but most of the contestants would be in Dodge City at their rodeo. There were just too many obstacles. Kendall commented that it all worked out and Tom agreed.

Kendall thanked Tom again for a great Fair Days and Tom said that he appreciated all of his staff for their hard work.

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

Luke Searle made a motion to adjourn. Spencer Park seconded the motion.

Dustin asked Tom if he would be doing Truth in Taxation. Tom responded that yes we will be doing Truth in Taxation and will need a public hearing. He said that he already notified Joey

Granger and that he notified the council back in June. Tom reported that in 2022 our tax rate was .000193 and this year it fell to .000158 and he would like to ask that it go back to .000193.

Motion to adjourn had already been made and seconded, so Kendall called for a vote and motion passed with the following vote:

AYE: Kendall Crittenden

AYE: Karl McMillan

AYE: Steve Farrell

AYE: Spencer Park

AYE: Erik Rowland

AYE: Luke Searle

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mark Nelson

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Duke