

Present were committee members Luke Swanson, Patrick Collins, Weston Putnam, and Drex Bailey. Also present were EOTEC General Manager Al Davis, EOTEC Operations Manager Brian Rust, Councilman Doug Primmer, and City staff Holly Lambert.

Committee member Jennifer Roberts excused. Mike Kay and Doug Bennett absent.

Guest present: Michael Kane of the East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald.

Patrick opened the meeting at 5:37pm and called the meeting to order at 5:47pm as quorum was reached.

July 6th, 2023, Minutes

Luke moved and Weston seconded to approve the July 6th, 2023, EOTEC Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Barns Expansion Report

Al shared work is continuing to determine sprinklers needed and pricing for project.

Field Expansion Project – HEROS Report

Luke reported how the new fields help up as a parking lot during the Fair and Rodeo. Luke stated the communication and care take of the fields between the Fair/Rodeo and EOTEC staff, especially Al and Brian, was awesome. Parking was a smooth process and the grass parked on was well cared for during Fair week and “it was handled great!” The grass after Fair parking is doing well and coming back.

Luke stated more donations are coming in and the current goal is to have the first two poles up and lit this winter in the north fields. The HEROS team continues to refine ideas on how to care for and best water the fields, especially the trouble spots. The team is working to update the signage inside and outside around the fields. No firm date has been set to complete the transition.

EOTEC Operations Update Report

Al reported since our last meeting EOTEC hosted the Umatilla County Fair and Rodeo grounds prep through clean up July 17th-Aug 27th, two barrel races, a quincenera and a memorial service. Recently EOTEC worked with emergency management to serve as an evacuation center for the two fires. Red Cross also comes in to check on people and set up cots and more. A walk-thorough with the Fair and Rodeo was completed to review tasks to be completed by the Fair and Rodeo.

This coming weekend brings the World Series Team Roping with 95-100 stalls rented and 30 RV’s coming in. Several big statewide meetings are coming up, along with a motorcycle license training class and a quincenera.

Luke requested we look contracts for field rentals future use and creating a list of possibilities for use of the fields.

Brian shared EOTEC’s works with our Parks and Recreation department to expand their use of EOTEC for P&R events. The conversation has begun about taking the Festival of Lights to the next level.

2023 Fair and Rodeo Reports

No reports given at this time.

Branding Update

New EOTEC branding approved by the City Council on August 14th, 2023.

Other Business

No other business to report.

Next Meeting- November 2nd, 2023, at 5:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm.

DRAFT