

Present were Chairman Patrick Collins, Committee Members Luke Swanson, Jennifer Roberts, Drex Bailey, Steve Wallace and David Bothum. EOTEC General Manager Al Davis, EOTEC Operations Manager Brian Rust, and City Staff Holly Lambert were also in attendance.

Member Excused: Weston Putnam

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

July 11th, 2024, Minutes

Jennifer moved and Steve seconded to approve the July 11th, 2024, EOTEC Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

2024 Farm City Pro Rodeo Report

David stated local support for the Rodeo is outstanding. Attendance increased by 5%, the number of cowboys competing increased and the facility and grounds filled up with people. In the month the Rodeo group rented the space, the group installed new electronic HD reader boards, repainted the arena and chute gates and improved the grounds, including the dirt. David noted that good dirt is important in the equine world.

2024 Umatilla County Fair Report

Steve shared attendance increased by 9% in the fairgrounds, more cars were parked, more sales overall for the vendors and 1.504 million raised in the 4-H and FFA livestock auction, an 11% increase over last year. He also noted the campers and camping situation continues to improve.

Barns Expansion

The barns were completed just before the fair began. The fur and feather or small animal barn now has recently finished concrete. The process of expanding the barns worked well. There is still a struggle with the commons area grounds and the new trees planted on July 11th. The limited times necessary to water the grounds were hampered by windstorms.

Field Expansion- HEROS

Luke shared the HEROS fields were fully lighted during the fair and held up well through the week's parking use. Customers treated the fields well and appreciated the improvements.

The HEROS committee has expanded and has focused their efforts on the final fundraising push needed to complete the lights and add luxury portable restrooms. The fundraising efforts also include plans on how to hire a sports coordinator to set up and take down tournaments and more.

Other updates included soccer goals and carts purchased, a recap of last season that kicked off with two tournaments, several matches and two soccer games.

Al suggested the need for a Sports Commission in Hermiston.

Operations Update

Brian presented the operations report listing events and activities hosted at EOTEC (see attached).

AI shared the former Festival of Lights is newly rebranded to “Land of Lights”, with Amazon Web Services as the title sponsor.

Other

A question was raised regarding future additional bathroom facilities @ EOTEC.

Next Meeting- February 6th, 2025, at 5:30PM

Chairman Collins adjourned the meeting at 6:18pm.

Operations Update 11/7/2024

Trees planted July 11

Barn expansion finished just before fair

Concrete in Small animal barn
(poured 11/4/24)

28 Days to cure

Fair & Rodeo

Oregon State Legislature Transportation
Committee Public Hearing and Round Table
Meeting

High School Events

Senior Sunrise

Homecoming

Regional FFA Greenhand Event

Life Line Health Screening

Oregon Free Mason Celebration

Stepping Stones Gala

Combat Zone Classic Livestock Show

Remuda Classic Horse Sale

Intermountain ESD, OCDC, ODHS Fall
Summit

Latino Concert

Western State Jr Rodeo Awards Banquet

Good Shepherd Annual Community Meeting

2 Quince's, 2 Weddings

Multiple Meetings and Trainings

Barns and Sprinklers blown out

Trees Trimmed

UPCOMING

Land of Lights

December 6-January 1 (Thursday-Sunday 6-9PM)

Sponsors: AWS, Good Shepherd, Good Shepherd Health Foundation, Rogers Motors, Rotary

Lights going up

New walk thru side in rodeo commons (most of those lights up. Waiting for celebration of life this weekend to start running extension cords.

Borrowed the skating rink from Umatilla

Vendor event December 6 & 7

EOTEC Community Event (Choirs, Santa)
December 13