

Present were committee members Jennifer Roberts, Luke Swanson, Doug Bennett, Weston Putnam, Kim Puzey and Mike Kay (arrived at 5:35pm). Also present were City Councilman Roy Barron (arrived at 5:35pm), City Manager Byron Smith, EOTEC General Manager Al Davis (via phone), EOTEC Operations Manager Brian Rust, & City staff Holly Lambert.

Guests present: Josh Burns, Justin Rysdam, Scott Purswell & Paul Barnett

Committee members Jessica Narain and Youth Advisor Member Cesar Morfin Morales were excused.

Doug opened the meeting at 5:31pm. Attendees briefly introduced themselves.

June 6th, 2022 Minutes

Luke moved and Jennifer seconded to approve the June 6th, 2022 EOTEC Advisory Committee meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Barns Expansion Project Report

Byron reported the State of Oregon has received our application. No definite timing has been established for the first phase of the grant. He shared the County plans to use their grant funds (approximately one million) toward the barn's expansion project. This project will fall into next year with the money to be approved this Fall.

Doug shared fans are being installed in the middle of the beef barn prior to Fair beginning.

Luke asked about shades in the barns and Doug responded they are moving forward on this with EOTEC's permission.

Report & Discussion on Field Expansion Project

Luke presented a fundraising packet (see attached) to the Advisory Committee designed to raise money to bring playing fields to the front 20 acres of EOTEC property. Following the Yakima SOSO field model, the proposal will bring water from the SE corner along the road, use a 3-reel track for watering (requiring more maintenance but at a better cost than underground sprinklers) and lighting poles on the inside and outside of the fields.

The presentation was well received by the advisory committee, followed by a positive discussion sharing fundraising encouragement and suggestions.

Mike stated the watering system proposed is a solid plan for ease and use. He suggested a tiered level cost plan for fundraising and believes adding fields is the greatest thing to add value to this community.

Roy shared the City Council is looking to pursue these types of projects that add value to our community and asked if this vision is what is planned or if more time needed.

Luke stated the fundraising committee members believe the vision planned is well-thought out, solid, will look beautiful and enhance the EOTEC facility. The fundraising committee explored many options for best use of the front 20 acres.

Josh noted if the funds are not all raised at once, the fields can be built two at a time while additional funds are raised.

Mike moved and Weston seconded to support and recommend to the City Council the Hermiston Oregon Sportsplex field expansion project "HEROS at EOTEC". **Motion passed unanimously.**

Operations Update

Brian updated the committee on this past month's EOTEC activities including hosting the Association of Counties. EOTEC received positive feedback on the facility from the association's members from all over the state. Brian stated they have been busy with many activities and events scheduled until the Fair and Rodeo coming in. EOTEC has workers updating the arenas and grounds.

Doug expressed appreciation from the Fair for the updates and advancements in the facilities by EOTEC.

Brian thanked Doug for the encouragement.

Next Meeting- September 1st, 2022th at 5:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.