

Present were committee members Luke Swanson, Doug Bennett, Weston Putnam, Patrick Collins and Mike Kay (via Zoom). Also present were City Manager Byron Smith, Mayor David Drotzmann, EOTEC General Manager Al Davis, & City staff Holly Lambert.

Guests present: John Eckhardt

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

Doug opened the meeting at 5:32pm.

July 7th, 2022 Minutes

Weston moved and Patrick seconded to approve the July 7th, 2022 EOTEC Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Barns Expansion Project Report

Byron reported the county has received their million-dollar grant money for improvements to the county fair. The City is awarded \$277,000 that has not yet been received. The City to discuss a procurement process for the grant to potentially build out both the beef and swine barns. The committee should see a project timeline at the next meeting.

Report on Field Expansion Project

Luke reported the project is going great, despite being a bit behind the original timeline. The HEROS at EOTEC (Hermiston Oregon Sportsplex) project committee will be starting with contractors who are making in-kind donations. Pledges are complete to begin the work now to plant grass in the playing fields to be ready by spring. The committee is now reaching out for donations with their first six-figure Hall of Fame donation confirmed. Made to Thrive will lease the property, receive donations and pay expenses toward the field expansion and has offered to help write grants for the project. The committee is still working to build the light package needed in order to seek grants and assistance.

Luke praised many in the community who have stepped up to help with this project. The project team is working to have a nice landscaped area for the donor wall that will fit into the overall master plan for EOTEC. In addition to encouragement from the community and businesses, Luke has spoken with Parks and Recreation regarding ticket taking and parking during tournaments. The hope is to host our first tournament in the spring of 2023.

2022 Umatilla County Fair

Doug shared overall numbers, parking, vendor profits and Youth Livestock Sale (a new record @ \$1.1 million) were up this year. The new Youth & Parents BBQ was well received, serving over 600 meals. The full report on numbers for this year's fair is not yet completed. The Fair Board is continuing to look for ways to expand future opportunities to involve more youth, including the area of STEM education. The Board continues to discuss improvements and attendance for next year, for example moving Latino night to Saturday.

2022 Farm City Pro Rodeo

Mike shared the numbers for the rodeo were up across the board for attendance and sales with Saturday night the biggest night ever. Each year the rodeo board seeks to make one to two improvements. For example, the rodeo board to address the fair board the traffic flow between the two and the use of the large restroom.

EOTEC Operation Update

Al stated the Fall Festival Event featuring BBQ competition, Dueling Piano's & Faith & Blue went very well. Outside events are wrapping up for the season until the Festival of Light, indoor events are scheduled throughout the rest of the year and the Parks & Recreation evening programs are going well. EOTEC is considering hosting outdoor concerts and how that can be staged in the arena.

Next Meeting- November 3rd, 2022th at 5:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.