

Present were Vice Chair Weston Putnam, Committee Members Luke Swanson, Jennifer Roberts, Steve Wallace and David Bothum. EOTEC General Manager Al Davis, City Manager Byron Smith, City Councilors Roy Barron, Jeff Kelso and City Staff Holly Lambert were also in attendance.

Members Excused: Patrick Collins and Drex Bailey

Vice Chair Putnam called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

November 11th, 2024, Minutes

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

Barns Expansion

Al & Byron both stated the barns are complete, completed prior to the 2024 UCF.

Al shared the new fire alarm system is in good working order.

Weston expressed thanks to all who helped complete the project.

Field Expansion- HEROS

Luke provided an update on current fundraising efforts, including applying for a State Parks matching funds grant, if awarded would help raise the final million dollars needed to complete the project infrastructure and work in progress.

Byron shared the city has a grant writer to help with the grant application.

Steve asked Luke if underground sprinklers are part of the project.

Luke answered not at this time, this issue is tied to EOTEC's water issues and the limited availability of water on the overall grounds.

Luke shared the HEROS committee has purchased multiple goals allowing for a wide range of use by different ages and sporting events.

Weston inquired if tournaments held while fundraising continues are coordinated by volunteers and the search for a sports coordinator.

Luke answered tournaments are currently ran by volunteers, primarily Hermiston Youth Lacrosse.

Byron added the city recently hired a person in the Parks & Recreation department to recruit and run tournaments.

Operations Update

Al presented the operations report listing events and activities hosted at EOTEC (*see attached*) since our last committee meeting. Al stated in addition to the events listed, EOTEC hosts regular daily activities including pickleball and indoor soccer.

At Steve's request, Al gave an overview of the process of how concerts are booked, ran and revenue earned.

Al shared Amazon's recent solar power projects in the area. Amazon approached EOTEC for a solar project on the grounds, we accepted, and the Large Bathrooms now have solar panels installed on the roof. Potentially Amazon will install additional solar panels at EOTEC in the future.

Al also stated that EOTEC has become a regional hub for the Cascadia event planning.

At Weston's request, Al shared the busiest times of the year, besides August, are generally in the spring. Winter is often slower, but still most weekends throughout the year are booked.

Other

Roy requested a status update on water rights and financials.

Byron stated he is working with the city's Finance Director on an EOTEC financials page for the City Council that can then be shared with the advisory committee. He also shared that work is taking place to secure permanent water rights but there is not any updates that can be shared in public at this time.

Weston welcomed newly elected City Councilor Jeff Kelso to the committee and congratulated him on his election to City Council.

Jeff thanked Weston and expressed thanks to EOTEC for recently hosting the Amateur Radio Club at the facility. The club had a great experience.

Next Meeting- April 3rd, 2025, at 5:30PM

Vice Chair Putnam adjourned the meeting at 6:08pm.

EOTEC Advisory Meeting 2/6/25

Operations Update

Rogers Motors Manager Meeting & Christmas Party

Hermiston Farm Fair

Land of Lights

Good Shepherd Christmas Party

Jasmine Strong Toy Drive

Christmas Express (expanding next year)

3 Parks & Rec Rec It Arenas

New Years Eve Celebration/Fireworks

2 Skating rink take overs

Midway Comedy Festival

Fair Banquet

Hermiston Ed Foundation Dinner/Auction

Upcoming:

Stanfield Booster Dinner and Auction

Hermiston Gun Club Crab Feed

Farm City Ag & Home Expo

Michael Salgado Concert

Lacrosse Practices/Games

Have had conversations with Parks and Rec and Youth Lacrosse about logistics

NRA Banquet

Ducks Unlimited

Skating