Study Session of the Board of Directors

September 20, 2022, 5:30pm

CJ Pavillion

MINUTES

I Call to Order / Roll Call – Kelly Moffat, Dondi Connelley, Doug Severinsen, Kurt Prinslow; Traci Mclain, Kevin Whitacre, Ron Howard (Elizabeth Rodeo Association); Mike Barney (staff)

II Discuss Terms of Partnership with Elizabeth Rodeo Association in Pursuing Rodeo Improvements - Mike reviewed a draft MOU between the District and the Elizabeth Rodeo Association that he and Ron Howard had been working on over the last year, asking those present if they had objections or were requesting edits to the document. Both Boards were in general agreement of the draft document. It was requested that the issue of liability be specifically added to the agreement, with a description of the coverages that each agency should be required to carry. It was also suggested that the MOU should specifically list the portable features in and around the rodeo arena which are owned by the ERA but stored on District property throughout the year.

- There was some discussion about event permitting and the District Board’s desire for the rodeo arena to host a greater variety of events that may utilize site features owned by the ERA such as bleachers, arena footing, lights, and elevated announcer’s booth(s). The ERA Board expressed a willingness to allow for the use of some assets and expand programming of the arena, though stipulated that bucking chutes are not to be used by other groups. It was agreed that the draft MOU would be edited to reflect this intent and stipulate that bucking chutes were not available for use by groups other than the ERA, unless specifically provided by the ERA.

- Mike and Ron Howard agreed to revisit the MOU and make the requested edits before presenting the draft for both Boards to again review. Mike expressed a desire to have the MOU signed by both Boards and executed for 2023.

III Review Proposals for Replacing Poles and Lights at Rodeo Arena

- Mike shared that he had received a quote for the light fixtures to match those that were replaced due to wind damage in May. The quote was received from PALCO Supply and was projected at $40,764. This cost did not include replacement poles, installation, or any needed electrical work. Kevin shared that he had received a second quote that was similar in cost. Both quotes included costs for additional site lighting to be projected outside the arena for general site lighting. The District Board expressed a desire to get a full project cost put together that included poles, lights, installation, and all associated costs. Mike and Kevin stated that they would work on the total project costs and report back to both Boards.

- There was then some general discussion on which agency would pay for the lighting replacements. It was noted by the Board that the ERA is the only group that currently uses the lights, and that according to the draft MOU, the lights are listed as owned by the ERA. The two Board’s discussed the challenges in joint ownership of rodeo arena assets, and the District Board expressed a desire to ultimately own all assets within the park, joined with the ability to review and permit use requests independently. Both Board’s recognized the need to get the lighting project completed and agreed to revisit the matter once the full costs are identified.

X Other Matters

- Kevin Whitacre presented some proposed changes to the site layout for the Stampede in 2023. It was proposed that that a new food / alcohol vending area be established near the southeast corner of the rodeo arena. The new area would allow both ticketed and non-ticketed attendees to patronize food and alcohol vendors at all times. The Board asked about potential damage to the area being proposed, and Kevin shared that he did not feel this area would be damaged, other than some temporary loss of natural turf which would grow back after the event. It was also proposed that vendor alley be extended along the existing pathway between the playground and the campground, which connects to the proposed new food / alcohol vending area. This proposal includes the need to relocate the existing gate entering the rodeo arena from the campground further south. The Board seemed supportive of the concept and asked staff to work with Kevin to assess how it can best be accomplished.

XI Adjournment – The study session was adjourned at 6:15pm.