



## Minutes of the Oregon State Fair Council Regular Meeting

October 22, 2020

By Phone Due to COVID-19 and Social Distancing requirements

Audio Recorded: Yes

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**I. Call to Order:** The meeting convened at 1:34 p.m. with Chair Kevin Cameron presiding.

**II. Roll Call:** The attendance, both in person and by phone, was recorded as shown below:

**Present:**

Kevin Cameron, Chair  
Vicki Berger, Vice Chair  
Loyal Burns, Council Member  
Jon Chandler, Council Member  
George Jennings, Council Member  
Austin McGuigan, Council Member  
Craig Smith, Council Member  
Rep. Mike Nearman, Advisory Council Member  
Steve Powers, Advisory Council Member  
Sen. Arnie Roblan, Advisory Council Member  
Kim Grewe-Powell, Interim Director/CEO

**Non-Present:**

Gene Derfler, Council Member  
Dana Jung, Council Member  
Leah Perkins-Hagele, Council Member

**III. Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was made by all parties present.

**IV. Presentations:** None

**V. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Council Meeting of June 26, 2020: Chair Cameron asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes presented for approval. Hearing none, a motion was made by Council Member Smith and seconded by Council Member Jennings to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None

**VII. Council Chair's Report:** None

**VIII. CEO's Report:**

Jim Hinkle, Director of Administration and Operations voluntarily left for another job opportunity on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Interim Director/CEO Grewe-Powell wished him the best of luck and enjoyed working with him. She is not filling his position as of yet.

Interim Director/CEO Grewe-Powell has hired AccurAccounts back for our financial and accounting needs.

On Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>, which would have been the last day of the Oregon State Fair, Marion County called to ask if our grounds could be used as a Fire Evacuee site. OSFEC gladly sprang into action to help Marion County and Red Cross welcome approximately 1,500 families and 1,450 animals for a 3-week time-period. Interim Director/CEO Grewe-Powell extended gratitude to the staff for helping at a moment's notice and giving 100% to do whatever was needed for those in their time of need. She expressed it was a pleasure to work with Marion County and the Red Cross. It was amazing to see the community come together by providing donations and volunteering countless hours.

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Council Member Jennings asked if Covid-19 had any effect at the evacuations site at the fairgrounds. It did not. Those with Covid-19 symptoms were identified and moved to another location off site.

**IX. Information Items:**

**a. Expo Center:**

i. LRS 2020 Facility Assessment Report

The Facility Assessment Report has been received from LRS. Due to the size of the file, a link to the report was emailed. Gail Sargent, from LRS was on the phone and gave a high-level overview of the report. (The report was made available in print at the fair office). Ms. Sargent touched on the finding of the Historic Horse stadium, the Poultry Building, and the 4-H Auditorium. She pointed out there are several areas on the campus that need upgrading and brought to code, if and when renovations were to occur.

ii. Environmental Quality Management Contract

OSFEC recently signed an agreement with Environmental Quality Management to use the fairgrounds as an office for their staff and staging area to safely sort household items left at Northern Oregon fire homesites (such as paint, motor oil and propane). The City of Salem and Mayor Bennett voted to allow use of our location and approved an emergency zoning change for their operation. They plan to be on our site October – November. A media advisory was included in the Council packet. Richard Franklin, On-Scene Coordinator, was on the call to answer any questions.

Mr. Franklin works primarily in Oregon on large disastrous events including fire clean up. They have been tasked by FEMA to conduct post fire clean up, removing hazardous waste from the disaster areas in 8 Oregon counties. There will be a meeting with the neighborhood association next week. Kay Morrison will be the person of contact for community engagement, there is also an 800 number where the community can ask questions or discuss their concerns. Environmental Quality Management is insured with an umbrella coverage in case of accident.

**b. 2019 State Fair Report:**

i. E-Fair Report

Interim Director/CEO Grewe-Powell announced that the All Oregon E-Fair was successful. Concert Pre-Sales for 2021 were just shy of \$205,000. The campaign did a great job of keeping the Oregon State Fair relevant in the minds of our Fair friends, family and community. A re-cap report has been included in the meeting materials.

She would like to thank Royle Johnson, Katy Moore, Dan Cox, Eric Marcuse, Katie Walther, Jenna Cooper, Joe Ellis and Shawnnell Fuentes for their hard work and creativity on this project.

**X. Action Items**

**a. State Fair Council**

i. Financial Statement 1/1/20-9/30/20 Financial Statement

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions, OSFEC have only the Engineer Exams and Salem Cart Racing booked through March. All other events have been canceled but most have tentatively rescheduled for 2021. Marion County was invoiced \$67,232.56 for use of the facility during the fires and has paid in full. Red Cross was invoiced \$97,282 but stated it could take up to 7 months to receive payment. OSFEC is very fortunate to host Environmental Quality Management over the next few months. The projected invoiced amount is \$42,800 per month. None of this revenue, nor the E-Fair concert revenue, is reflected in the attached P&L. OSFEC have been working with a skeletal staff since March and continues to look for cost savings. Interim Director/CEO reported there was a projected loss of \$1.6 million. The financial statement reflects a loss of \$1.2 million so we are likely to beat the projected loss.

Chair Cameron asked if there were any changes or corrections to the financial statement presented for approval. Hearing none, a motion was made by Council Member Chandler and seconded by Council Member Berger to accept the financial statement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**b. State Fair - None**

**c. Expo Center – None**

**XI. Committee Reports and Action Thereon**

- i. Executive Committee: None, no action taken.
- ii. Governmental Affairs Committee: Council Member Berger will review the Facility Assessment and Report back on suggestion of what will be prioritized and suggested to the legislature.
- iii. Nominating Committee: Interim CEO/Director Grewe-Powell will review the bylaws for elections, and terms. The Nominating Committee needs to meet to nominate new Council Officers.

**XII. Public Comments on Non-Agenda items: None**

**XIII. Council Members' Comments:** Council Member Berger and Mr. Powers thanked Interim Director/CEO Grewe-Powell and her team for their hard work and cooperation with the different organizations in regards to the 2020 Fires.

**XIV. Adjourn:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm

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**Meeting Materials:**

Agenda

Council Meeting Minutes 6/25/2020

Link to LRS

Media Advisory- EPA stand-up Wildfire Recovery Response Staging Area at Oregon State Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Salem

E-Fair Report

Financial Statement 1/1/2020-9/30/2020