



Minutes of the Oregon State Fair Council Regular Meeting

April 23, 2020

By Phone Due to COVID-19 and Social Distancing requirements

Audio Recorded: Yes

I. Call to Order: The meeting convened at 2:30 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
Austin McGuigan, Council Member
Leah Perkins-Hagele, Council Member
Sen. Arnie Roblan, Advisory Council Member
Craig Smith, Council Member
Mike Paluszak, Director/CEO

Non-Present:

Gene Derfler, Council Member
George Jennings, Council Member
Dana Jung, Council Member
Rep. Mike Nearman, Advisory Council Member
Steve Powers, Advisory Council Member

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

IV. Report Out Regarding Executive Session

Chair Cameron reported that an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) to consider employment of a Director/CEO. The Council will not be hiring a new Director/CEO at this time due to COVID-19. Given the uncertainty of the current situation, the Council feels that now is not the right time to bring on someone new, and we will not be moving forward in the immediate future. Mr. Paluszak will stay on in his current capacity on a month-to-month basis to assist with the transition as we move forward.

V. Possible Public Comments and Action Regarding Employment of a Director/CEO: None

VI. Approval of Minutes:

a. Council Meeting of March 19, 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 McGuigan and seconded by Council Member Chandler to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

VIII. Council Chair's Report:

Chair Cameron reiterated that we will not be moving forward with hiring a new Director/CEO at this time. Vice Chair Berger added that we are in a holding pattern at this point and awaiting better guidance from officials about the future. We don't want to get ahead of anybody, will continue planning and keep our options open.

IX. CEO's Report:

Combining agenda Items IX. and X. – The temporary hospital is set and ready to go but has not been activated yet. It will stay in place until the Oregon Health Authority no longer believes it will be needed. In the meanwhile, we have cancelled 39 Expo Center events due to gathering limitations due to COVID-19. We are working closely with renters to reschedule or postpone their events until next year if all possible. Regarding the 2020 State Fair,

we are planning as usual for and 11-day Fair ending on Labor Day, while keeping an eye on the opening of Oregon and how that will roll out and reacting appropriately. We plan on rolling out public announcements of concerts early June along with beginning ticket sales. Fair staff that usually works this time of year is largely working remotely doing a great job planning a great fair.

X. Information Items:

a. **State Fair Report:** See Item IX. above

XI. Action Items

a. **State Fair Council**

i. Financial Statement 1/1/20-3/31/20

Mr. Paluszak explained that this represents the point in time that we shut down. Until we are in the position of resuming Expo Center events again or have the Fair, this is what revenue we will have, and there has been little activity since then. Although there will be some expenses going forward, we have reduced staffing of both year-round and temporary employees and made other expense adjustments.

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 Burns to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

b. **State Fair:** None

c. **Expo Center:** None

d. **Committee Reports and Action Thereon**

i. Executive Committee: None

ii. Governmental Affairs Committee:

Sen. Roblan reported on the Legislature’s Emergency Board meeting during which they took up eleven items totaling \$32 million, mostly having to do with worker relief, small business relief, preparing for firefighting season, and funding for public defenders. As the Chair of the Corona Virus Committee they have been following the Governor’s recommendations and executive orders, and Oregon is being a leader in flattening the curve and number of deaths. We should be seeing a slow reopening soon. Sen. Roblan expressed his appreciation to the Council for taking care of the business of OSFEC to keep us moving forward during this unusual time.

iii. Nominating Committee: None

XII. Public Comments on Non-Agenda items: None

XIII. Council Members’ Comments: Vice Chair Berger gave thanks and appreciation to the staff working from home in these uncertain times. She expressed her disappointment that we are not moving forward with hiring a new

Director/CEO, but thinks it is the right thing to do under the current circumstances. Chair Cameron added that the entire Council would echo those remarks and reminded everyone that we are all in this together. The next meeting will be May 28th, 2020. We will determine if in person or by phone again as we get closer.

XIV. Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:49pm

Meeting Materials:

Agenda

Council Meeting Minutes March 19, 2020

Financial Statement 1/1/20-3/31/20