



Minutes of the Oregon State Fair Council Regular Meeting

December 6, 2018

Oregon State Fair & Exposition Center – Cascade Hall-McKenzie Room

Audio Recorded: Yes

I. Call to Order: The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Chair Jon Chandler presiding.

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

Present:

Jon Chandler, Chair
Kevin Cameron, Vice Chair
Vicki Berger, Council Member
Gene Derfler, Council Member
Austin McGuigan, Council Member
Rep. Mike Nearman, Advisory Council Member
Steve Powers, Advisory Council Member
Sen. Arnie Roblan, Advisory Council Member
Craig Smith, Council Member
Mike Paluszak, Director/CEO

Non-Present:

Loyal Burns, Council Member
George Jennings, Council Member
Leah Perkins-Hagele, Council Member
Kerry Tymchuk, 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 October 25, 2018: Chair Chandler asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes presented for approval. Hearing none, it was moved by Council Member McGuigan and seconded by Council Member Derfler 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: Mr. Paluszak stated that work on the Bond Project is wrapped up for this year, and remaining items will be finished in the spring. Work has started on the Pavilion which was originally going to be part of the bond then removed as repairs not improvements. We have learned that the issues are more than originally thought. He will be meeting with DAS soon, and hopefully they will agree that the necessary work are improvements not repairs and need to be considered appropriate use of bond funds.

He reported they are in the process of beginning work on the OSFEC operating budget for 2019. He is optimistic that we will come in ahead of the approved 2018 budget, and approximately \$500,000 in capital investments. Mr. Paluszak expressed confidence that with the management and supervisory team and that we have in place, he sees a bright future for OSFEC.

Working with the Governmental Affairs Committee, work has begun on our request for the 2019-21 State Biennium budget. This will be discussed further under the Governmental Affairs Committee's Report.

IX. Information Items:

- a. **State Fair Report:** Mr. Paluszak shared the preliminary wrap-up on the 2018 Fair. That will be completed by 12/31/2018. He is in the process of finalizing reimbursements and reconciliation. Again, much like the overall budget, the Fair is well ahead of actuals from 2017 and well ahead of the approved budget for 2018.
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We have some unfinished business with Mr. Hillman which we hope to have wrapped up by the end of the year, as well.

The management team has started planning 2019 Fair, looking at programming and possible changes we might make. Two areas of focus are getting an early start with sponsorships and booking entertainment, specifically for the amphitheater. Even though the Fair is on a calendar year budget, this is prime buying season for entertainment, so Mr. Paluszak has authorized the entertainment buyer to proceed with a budget not to exceed 2018, so the Fair doesn't miss out on entertainment opportunities that have eluded us in the past.

We are in the process of negotiating major Fair time contractors for 2019. Council will hear more about those in the coming months, as they are in the beginning stage of negotiations.

Mr. Paluszak reiterated that we have a great team in place, they have great ideas, we anticipate another great Fair in 2019.

X. Action Items

a. State Fair Council

- i. Financial Statement 1/1/2018-10/31/2018: Mr. Paluszak reminded everyone that the statement is still somewhat incomplete, as they are still wrapping up final reconciliations, reimbursements, etc. with regard to the Fair. We are well ahead of 2017 and the 2018 budget, and he thinks we are going to finish the year strong.

It was moved by Council Member Smith to approve the Financial Statement as submitted, and seconded by Council Member Derfler. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item X.b.3 Nominating Committee Report was moved here during the meeting:

Council Member Derfler shared that it is an unwritten tradition of the Council, that officers serve two years. The Committee recommends that Chair Chandler and Vice Chair Cameron be carried over for 2019.

- ii. Election of Council Officers for 2019
 - 1. Chair
 - 2. Vice Chair

There being no other nominations from the floor, it was moved by Council Member Derfler, and seconded by Council Member Berger that Chair Chandler and Vice Chair Cameron continue in their respective roles for 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

- iii. Recommendation to the Governor regarding Council Member appointments: Mr. Paluszak shared that when the Nominating Committee met a couple other things were discussed: Council Member Jennings is up for reappointment and he is willing to be reappointed and the Committee recommends that we request the Governor do so.

The Governor has asked that the Council suggest a new person in place of Council Member Tymchuk, who has volunteered not to be reappointed. Kerry assures us that he will continue to be a strong State Fair supporter. The committee has a recommendation that has not been forwarded to the Governor's office pending the full Council's consent. The recommendation to the Council is Dayna Jung. Council Member Chandler shared some of her experience and

background and added that she would bring a new perspective to the Council. Mr. Paluszak shared some of her resume with the Council.

Council Member Berger made a motion to send the recommendations of George Jennings and Dayna Jung, to the Governor’s Office for appointment to the Council. It was seconded by Council Member Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

- iv. 2019 Council Meeting Schedule: Chair Chandler circulated a proposed schedule of Council meetings for 2019: February 28th, April 25th, June 27th, July 25th, October 24th and December 5th. All scheduled meeting will start at 1:30pm. The Executive Committee and/or additional Council meetings will be scheduled when needed in months the Council is not scheduled to meet. And, if there is no business to bring to the Council, meetings can be cancelled.

Chair Chandler will not be able to attend the February 28th meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Berger to accept the proposed schedule, and seconded by Council Member Cameron. The Motion carried unanimously.

b. Committee Reports and Action Thereon

- i. Executive Committee: None
- ii. Governmental Affairs Committee: Council Member Berger shared the results of asking DAS for funding for deferred maintenance and improvements to the State Fair properties. DAS cannot at this time fund the ask, and did not put the OSFEC in to their budget this session. The Governor’s budget however will include \$5,000,000 to fund projects for the Poultry Building and Historic Horse Stadium. This money is proposed to come from Lottery Bonds.

Mr. Paluszak will propose in the 2019 budget that the Council approve up to \$300,000 to complete the facility-wide assessment. The assessment will take several months, and even longer to receive that data results. Then we will know how to prioritize projects based on the assessment.

Senator Roblan mentioned that he and Representative Nearman can sponsor a bill seeking funding for the assessment, deferred maintenance and improvements, even though our request was not included in DAS’s budget.

- iii. Nominating Committee: Moved to earlier on the agenda.

XI. Public Comments on Non-Agenda items: None

XII. Council Members’ Comments: None.

XIV. Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:25pm

Meeting Materials:

Agenda

Financial Statement 1/1/18 – 10/31/18
