

**CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
LODGERS TAX ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024**

REGULAR MEETING

Regular meeting of the Lodgers Tax Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. Third, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 12:00 pm.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Foerstner.

ROLL CALL:

Jake Foerstner, Chairman
Gina Kelley, Vice-Chairman
Linda DeMarino, Member
Victoria Harrington, Member
Jessica MacKenzie, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Angie Gonzales, City Manager
Tammy Gardner, Executive Assistant
Lisa Gabaldon, Deputy Clerk

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Member DeMarino made a motion to approve the agenda.
Vice-Chairman Kelley seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023

Member DeMarino made a motion to approve the minutes.
Member Harrington seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 minute rule applies)

There were no comments from the public at this time.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion/Update: LTAB Expenses. Tammy Gardner

Executive Assistant Gardner went over the expense report which was included in the packet with the board.

b. Discussion/Action: SCAC Application – Website

Cary Jagger' Gustin presented his application to the board.

The board decided to fund the project from February-June.

Member MacKenzie made a motion to fund \$1,134.06 to the SCAC for the website. Vice-Chairman Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Discussion/Action: SCAC Application - Reprint Gallery Brochures

Cary 'Jagger' Gustin made his presentation to the board.

Member DeMarino made a motion to approve \$633.00 to SCAC in order to reprint the brochures. Member MacKenzie seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Discussion/Update: PAAB Report – Well Drilling Project

Carey 'Jagger' Gustin advised the board that they are still planning on doing work on the well by Geronimo Springs Museum. He advised them that due to the moratorium on water rights, they are unable to do that, so they are wanting to have someone take a look at the cistern and they are going to ask the museum to use the well that they have in order to pump water to the fountain.

e. Discussion/Update: MainStreet – Desert Ultra Report

Cathy Mears-Martin went over the expenditures in her report which totaled \$2,801.54 which was less than what they were awarded.

Member DeMarino made a motion to accept the report from MainStreet. Vice-Chairman Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Discussion/Action: MainStreet Application – Truth or Consequences Annual Fiesta

Chairman Foerstner asked Commissioner Mitchell if they had turned in their report from Fiesta 2023. After much discussion, it was determined that they hadn't turned in the report and Commissioner Mitchell stated that she would work on it ASAP and get it turned in.

The board had a discussion about how to track the numbers from big events and possibly having a type of giveaway for filling out the questionnaire.

Commissioner Mitchell and Cathy Mears-Martin went before the board and presented the board with their plan as to how they would use the money for the 2024 Fiesta. They advised the board that they would be having a Cash Party on March 30, 2024 for a fundraiser.

Vice-Chairman Kelley asked City Manager Gonzales if it was possible to have MainStreet buy the tents, bleachers, and barriers, to donate it to the City in order for them to have these things on hand for future events. City Manager Gonzales stated that she didn't see a problem with it. The board and City Manager

Gonzales decided to put a list together for things that the city needs and the board can purchase the items from their fund before they lose the unspent monies.

Member DeMarino made a motion to approve a total of \$46,000. to MainStreet for the annual Fiesta, with the contingency that they donate the bleachers, tents and barriers to the City of Truth or Consequences so that they can be used for future events. Member MacKenzie seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Member DeMarino stated that they had allocated money for specific things for Fiesta 2023, and the money that was reimbursed was more than what they had allocated. She went on to say that back in the day, if an event was going to be more than originally anticipated, they would come back before the board to ask for more funding. She feels that it is pointless for them to allocate money for specific line items, and then are reimbursed for more than what was originally allocated. She suggested that if the amount is over what was allotted, they only get reimbursed for what was allotted.

Executive Assistant Gardner stated that that's what she usually does; it was overlooked.

Member DeMarino stated that they did go over in certain categories, but did not go over the total amount that was allocated. She went on to say that there are several items that were reimbursed that were not approved by the board.

City Manager Gonzales stated that on the budget side, as long as they don't go over their allotment, they aren't going to get too excited about it. She went on to say that it would be micromanaging that event.

Member DeMarino stated that they break down every category for a reason.

City Manager Gonzales advised the board that they will watch for these things better.

Executive Assistant Gardner stated that she is trying and doing her best. She stated that she understands the guidelines.

Chairman Foerstner asked if Executive Assistant Gardner could send them the reimbursement requests for them to review.

City Manager Gonzales and Executive Assistant Gardner advised the board that they cannot send them to all of the board members because it violated the Open Meeting Act.

Chairman Foerstner advised Executive Assistant Gardner to send the reimbursement requests to Vice-Chairman Kelley.

Vice-Chairman Kelley invited everyone to come and see her at the new Visitors Center. She said she has been working on it and it's coming along.

6. COMMENTS FROM STAFF

There were no comments from the staff at this time.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Foerstner adjourned the meeting.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of March 2024.



Jake Foerstner, Chairman