

***Our vision is to be the best resource for business assistance, through collaborations and partnerships,
for all communities within and surrounding Glacier County.***

Glacier County Regional Port Authority

Tentative November Board Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2022, 2:00 p.m., Medicine Spring Library, Browning, MT and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Present: Ken Hoyt, Skye Gilham, Mike Wineman, Rod Cline, Tony Sitzmann.
Absent/Excused: Tom McKay, John Overcast, Neal Bartleson. Absent/Unexcused: Doug Vermulm.
 - B. Guests: Sanford Stone, Sean McGuire (both via Zoom)
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Mike at 2:08
 - A. Rod moved, seconded by Skye, to approve November agenda. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. Rod moved, seconded by Skye, to approve October minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
 - C. Tony moved, seconded by Ken, to approve October financials. All in favor, motion carried.
 - D. Rod moved, seconded by Tony, to approve current budget. All in favor, motion carried.
 - E. No bills to present.
 - F. No correspondence.
- III. Old Business
 - A. FY2022 Annual Report is complete and posted on website.
 - B. Updates on Human Rights Bureau Case No. 00220154 and GCRPA Case No. CV—22-81-GF-BMM-JTJ – Discussion took place. Skye shared an article with all Board members which was printed on 11/17/22.
 1. It was suggested that the GCRPA attorney be invited to the December meeting to update the Board. That portion of the meeting will be closed due to attorney/client privilege.
 - C. Loan Application - Executive Director working with a local lending agent to improve the GCRPA application.
- IV. New Business
 - A. Adjustments in Activity Reports – After discussion, Tony moved, seconded by Rod, to change the Activity Reports to include Browning, East Glacier Park, Babb/St. Mary and Cut Bank; to retain Sweetgrass Development and negate GFDA. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. Donation to Browning meeting venue – Tony moved, seconded by Rod, to make a non-profit donation of \$500 per year for the use of the BCC facility, to be made payable in December to BCC, and specified for the use of the Medicine Spring Library. All were in favor, motion carried.
 - C. Discussion of Economic Development Fund Award – After discussion, Tony moved, seconded by Ken, to raise the maximum grant award from \$2000 to \$5000, with all previous requirements to remain the same. All were in favor, motion carried.
- V. Strategic Planning Session - dealing with Board of Directors' terms and dates of term expiration as stated in By-Laws. As these dates came as a surprise to most Board members, it was moved by Rod and seconded by Skye to extend the terms until the January 2023

meeting. This gives each Board member time to evaluate their position. All were in favor, motion carried.

VI. Activity Reports

- A. Browning – Announcement of Craft Bazaars in the area. Manpower Tourist Information Center is working on new location, Blackfeet Community College's Workforce Development is back in the swing of things.
- B. East Glacier Park – Women's Club Holiday Bazaar on December 4
- C. Babb Parade of Lights scheduled for December 6. Kip's, Cattle Baron, Leaning Tree are advocating for year-round hours. Buffalo Calf Campground plans an expansion. The announcement was made that Two Medicine and Many Glacier will be included in the Glacier National Park ticketed entry system.
- D. Cut Bank – Parade of Lights December 3, Festival of Trees at Golf Course December 9, the Bowling Alley has sold (!), everyone is encouraged to follow and participate in the Cut Bank Community Facebook page, Rod announced his and Lisa's purchase of the Wilkins Building, which is quickly becoming "Market on Main", with nine spaces, seven of which are committed by local businesses and artisans, a community space, art studio, and other ideas were announced. Rod made a point of announcing that none of the spaces are in direct competition with any current Cut Bank businesses.
- E. Sweetgrass Development – Just finished co-hosting Montana Economic Developers Association conference, to which they have donated staff time for the last six months. Sean announced that they have seen a draft of their CEDS. Sweetgrass has a quarterly board meeting on November 30, and a Christmas celebration on December 21.

VII. Public Comment – The board welcomed public comments from Mr. Sanford Stone, who congratulated Rod and Lisa on their acquisition, and questioned the direction of the Board and where their support is going.

VIII. Adjournment – Tony moved, seconded by Ken, to adjourn the meeting at 3:46. All were in favor, motion carried. The next meeting will take place on December 15 at 2:00 p.m. at the GCRPA Office in Cut Bank, and via Zoom.

The mission of the Glacier County Regional Port Authority is to promote, stimulate, and advance the general welfare, commerce, economic development, and prosperity of its region.