

Glacier County Regional Port Authority
Tentative September Board Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2021, GCRPA Office and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Present: Pat Murphy, Neal Bartleson, Mike Wineman, Tony Sitzmann, Skye Gilham,
 - B. Absent/Excused: Fred Greco; Absent/Unexcused: Tom McKay, Ken Hoyt, John Overcast
 - C. Guests: Summer Burlingame, Sarah Converse, Jade Heather Hinman, Sanford Stone
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Mike Wineman at 2:04. No suggestions on draft form of Vision Statement at this time.
 - A. Pat moved, seconded by Neal to approve September agenda. Motion carried.
 - B. Neal moved, seconded by Pat to approve the July minutes. Motion carried.
 - C. Pat moved, seconded by Skye to approve the July and August financials. Motion carried.
 - D. Skye moved, seconded by Neal to accept the current budget. Motion carried.
 - E. Bill to present from Montana Non-Profit Association tabled until October meeting.
 - F. Correspondence read from the Glacier Historic Museum, in the form of a member invitation. Neal moved, seconded by Pat to join at the Contributor Level of \$250. Motion carried.
- III. EDF vote – After discussing eligible and ineligible project funding, Tony moved, seconded by Pat to table the vote until the October meeting. Motion carried.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. McCauley Overpass – After discussion, it was decided to look into plasma welded signage for the site. Local and Cut Bank Schools welders will be contacted, as well as a graphic designer.
 - B. Executive Director Evaluations were tabled until October meeting.
 - C. Strategic Planning Session wrap-up – After reading the contract draft from the facilitator, Tony moved, seconded by Neal to pay Mr. Shane Etwiler \$750 for his time and travel. Motion carried. Discussion on having Mr. Etwiler back before annual meetings will be revisited at a later date.
 - D. Other Old Business – Barring COVID regulations, the Board would like to begin alternating meetings once again between Browning and Cut Bank, and perhaps East Glacier Park. Meeting sites were discussed, and will be followed up previous to the October board meeting.
- V. New Business
 - A. Management of Big Sky Trust Fund Grant – discussion
 - B. GCRPA Loan Application – discussion
 1. Research and determine whether to go with a simple application + business plan. Current application is 13 pages long and could be streamlined.
 - C. Limiting time for public comment – Tony moved, seconded by Pat to limit public comment to three (3) minutes. Those members of the public whose comment exceeds three minutes will be asked to email glacierportauthority@gmail.com 48 hours prior to the meeting.
 - D. Unused \$500 FY21 student scholarship – added to FY22 scholarship budget. Discussion on how to use in following year, along with possibility of starting an alumni scholarship for student(s) in their second year or further. Scholarship funding will be revisited as scholarship season nears.

- E. Other New Business – Radio Ad Packages (Cat/Griz and Business of the Day). Tony moved, seconded by Neal to purchase the Business of the Day package, with the stipulation that it be similar to what was spent in FY21. Motion carried.
- VI. Strategic Planning – plan will be included on each monthly agenda. Discussion from Pat on whether the GCRPA is allowed to invest.
 - A. Opportunities were discussed.
 - 1. Do we meet all qualifications for a Revolving Loan Fund?
 - 2. Business partners (hold meetings at different business, tour facilities, etc.)
 - B. Threats were discussed
 - 1. With the possibility of a board seat opening up, recruiting responsibly and taking the time to recruit an individual who will add to our board strength was encouraged.
- VII. Activity Reports
 - A. Browning Community – The Tribe is purchasing several properties. The Casino is celebrating its anniversary.
 - B. Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce – NA
 - C. Sweetgrass Development – Board meeting on 9/22, working to get more Revolving Loan Funding and infrastructure funding
 - D. GFDA – NA
- VIII. Public Comment – Mr. Sanford Stone made suggestions that the GCRPA Board and Executive Director stay involved in grant applications and get on the radar of the ARPA leadership in order to communicate regularly.
- IX. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned by Mike at 3:32. Next public meeting will take place on October 14. Venue TBD after contacting suggested sites.

Vision Statement Draft:

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