

## **Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission, January 17, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on January 17, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Mark Skibowski, President  
Lyle Schrock, Vice-President

John Hall, Treasurer  
Doug Shoemaker- Arrived to the meeting at  
9:05a.m.  
Kathy Ray ABSENT

Jessica Hartman-Secretary  
Matt Metzger

The meeting was called to order by Mark Skibowski.

### **IN THE MATTER OF SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS:**

Mark Skibowski, Lyle Schrock, John Hall, Jessica Hartman, Doug Shoemaker, and Matt Metzger were sworn in as 2024 board members.

### **Grant Request**

### **IN THE MATTER OF ENCOURAGING EVENTS-FOLLOWERSHIP CONFERENCE:**

Encouraging Events producer and co-host Sherri Lynn presented a request via zoom in the amount of \$10,500.00 for an event coming to Grace College from April 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> called the Followership Conference. It is the opposite of a leadership conference and will be faith based. The Followership Conference is about how to be a disciple of Jesus and how to follow Jesus. Encouraging Events is part of their radio show called the Brant Hansen Show, it is heard on 200 plus stations across the country. Registration was opened for the Followership Conference approximately a month ago and their goal is to have between 750-1000 attend. For sponsorship they are looking for assistance with digital ad marketing and for food truck vendors to be there throughout the weekend from Kosciusko County. Sherri stated they have also reached out to local hotels for rates. There will be some free time where people can experience what Kosciusko County has to offer. Lyle stated they could help with the digital advertising according to what the KCCRVC bylaws read. Sherri advised the digital marketing will be very helpful to bring people to the area. Mark stated it is good marketing for our community to have a nationally syndicated show here and \$3,000.00 for advertising will help promote the event.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 6                      Nays: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

To: Approve the Followership Conference  
grant request in the amount of \$3,000.00, as  
presented.

### **IN THE MATTER OF 2024 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Mark Skibowski verified with the Auditor that the officers being selected are for President, Vice President & Treasurer which was confirmed. Mark then opened the floor for nominations of themselves or others. Secretary Jessica Hartman nominated John Hall as Treasurer and John Hall accepted the nomination. Mark Skibowski opened the floor for nominations for President. Due to the lack of participation; Skibowski nominated himself for President. Skibowski stated he has acted as president in the past and that he and current president Kathy Ray have alternated. Member Lyle Schrock stated he was willing to step into the role of Vice President with John Hall then nominating Lyle Schrock to serve as Vice President. Skibowski advised there was a slate with the nominations and asked if there were any other nominations. He advised a vote would be taken for the three positions as follows:

- Mark Skibowski as President
- Lyle Schrock as Vice President
- John Hall as Treasurer

All members were in favor of The Slate. The 2024 Officers were approved unanimously.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

To: Approve John Hall as Treasurer, Mark Skibowski as President, and Lyle Schrock as Vice-President, as presented.

*\*\*\*After review of the minutes there will be clarification of the vote at the 3-13-24 KCCRVC Meeting.*

### **Grant Request:**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY VISITOR'S BUREAU AND VISITORS CENTER:**

KCCVB Executive Director Cori Humes presented a request in the amount of \$25,096.98 for Visitor Center Capital Improvements. Humes stated the visitor center was built in 1999 and is considered a welcoming site on US 30. The visitor center is a destination for information, visitors to have an outdoor picnic, restrooms, picking up local resources, things to do in the area, and travel information for the state of Indiana. The visitor's center is in need of a couple of capital projects. The roof has been inspected and it has approximately 1 to 2 years of life left. The laminate flooring in the back entryway kitchen and staff bathroom is cracking and becoming an issue. The Masonite double door in the back for staff and loading is 25 years old and is in need of replacement. The visitor's center does operate as the staff's convention and visitor's bureau offices. Humes stated they did get multiple quotes for the roof and wanted to rely on Millwood because they are the original builders who put the roof on 25 years ago. Matt asked if the other quotes came in similar priced. Humes stated yes, they were all about the same but they wanted to stick with the builder that did it about 25 years ago and they are still in the area. The current roof is a shingle roof with a single layer, Millwood will remove that layer instead of layering it. Hartman asked how urgent the flooring is, Humes advised urgency for the laminate, the carpeting is in pretty decent condition. Humes advised they would like to get it replaced this year.

*\*\*\*After the motion was made a discussion was brought up by John Hall to see if grant funds could be used from the 2023 grant funds. Rhonda Helser, Auditor was asked to confirm what year the grant funds could be used from. An amended motion was made to pay this request from*

*the 2023 remaining grant funds if applicable, if not, then it will be paid from the 2024 grant funds.*

MOTION: Lyle Schrock

SECOND: Jessica Hartman

AYES: 6            NAYS: 0

Motion Carried

TO: Approve the Visitor Center Capital Improvements in the amount of \$25,096.98, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CVB UPDATE:**

KCCVB Executive Director Cori Humes presented the CVB update.

- The digital message board sign is up and they are working on getting all the marketing on it
- The 2022 annual audit should be completed soon and given to KCCRVC for review
- Visitor traffic had an improvement of 27.3% from 2022 to 2023
- They have completed about 13 of their incentives for their strategic plan for 2024-2026 3-year plan with the board and should be approved by March
- The sports and events calculator will be continuing
- First quarter hotelier meeting will be February 15, 2024
- Increasing their digital marketing efforts
- They have created an annual report to showcase what tourism is doing for our county as well as the KCCRVC contribution
- The most viewed video in 2023 was the Lake City Skiers National Tournament
- The rebranding will be launching in February

**IN THE MATTER OF CHAUTAUQUA WAWASEE-SHANNA ZOLMAN MAHALEY'S FAITH STORY:**

Advisor for Chautauqua Wawasee Sally Mahnken presented a request for a publicity grant in the amount of \$500.00 for Shanna Zolman Mahaley's Faith Story. Shanna Zolman is a very highly well-known and respected young women who graduated from Wawasee High School and went on to play national basketball. She is going to talk about her faith and how it brought her through the time in national basketball. This will be a free event for those coming in. There will be advertising in Fort Wayne, South Bend, and the local area.

Motion: John Hall

Second: Lyle Schrock

Ayes: 6            Nays: 0

Motion Carried

To: Approve the Shanna Zolman Mahaley's Faith Story publicity grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CHAUTAUQUA WAWASEE-PURDUE VARSITY GLEE CLUB PERFORMANCE:**

Advisor for Chautauqua Wawasee Sally Mahnken presented a request for a publicity grant in the amount of \$500.00 for the Purdue Varsity Glee Club. Every other year the Purdue Varsity Glee Club come to Kosciusko County. This year it will be at the high school and they are expecting approximately 300-400 people. We hope some of them stay the night.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 6                      Nays: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

To: Approve the Purdue Varsity Glee Club Performance publicity grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CHAUTAUQUA WAWASEE-WAWASEE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL:**

Advisor for Chautauqua Wawasee Sally Mahnken presented a request for a publicity grant in the amount of \$500.00 for the Wawasee Fine Arts Festival. This will be the 10<sup>th</sup> year for the Wawasee Fine Arts Festival. Right now, there is 35-45 vendors and hoping to get approximately 50. This event will happen during Memorial weekend.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 6                      Nays: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

To: Approve the Wawasee Fine Arts Festival publicity grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 8, 2024 MEETING:**

Minutes from the November 8, 2024 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes:        5                      Nays: 0  
Mark Skibowski- Abstained (absent for the 11-8-24 meeting)  
MOTION CARRIED

To: Approve the November 8, 2024 meeting minutes, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCCRVC FINANCIALS:**

Treasurer John Hall presented the financial report, stating at the end of the year they collected \$844,000.00 compared to \$902,000.00 last year. The Innkeepers tax was down about \$100,000.00 from the hotels. The state did come up from \$263,000.00 compared to \$219,000.00. Hall stated overall it was a good year and all the hotels are up to date.

Motion: Jessica Hartman  
Second: Matt Metzger  
Ayes:        6                      Nays: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

To: Approve the financial report as presented.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

Mark advised the Commission that the KCCRVC ordinance (ordinance that created the Commission) was provided to all members as well as the grant applications (forms) that are used. Mark advised he had received feedback in regards to the grants being reimbursable; and that the grantees must come up with the funds in advance and then submit paid receipts for

reimbursement. He shared information what the City Council of Warsaw is doing with an amendment to their ordinance for capital projects in which they will fund 50% in advance so that it doesn't have to be a reimbursement. Mark requested assistance from the Auditor to review and research this to see if this is something that they can do legally. He added that it may not be feasible for a non-profit to come up with a large amount of funds and suggested that this be looked into for capital expenditures; not for operations expenses. He stated that once the grant amounts are sorted out; he encouraged the Commission to get the message out about grant availability and grant opportunities.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS:**

Mark Skibowski stated the Auditor's office has reviewed the claims that have been received and the claims are being presented to the Commission for approval. The claims that were prepared to be paid were briefly discussed and will be signed by both president and vice president.

Being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

\*\*\*After the meeting was adjourned, CCAC Executive and Tournament Director Mike Hagy thanked the Commission for all their support and wanted to address Skibowski comments above concerning reimbursable grants and their willingness to look further into the possibilities of providing an advanced grant. Hagy spoke of his recent experience of a grant that the CCAC was looking further into an advanced grant for nonprofits, and that any percentage for capital projects would be helpful.

Hagy gave an update on the CCAC stating they have started to turn a corner over the last 2 years. Hagy thanked Mark Skibowski and Jo Paczkowski for all their help. The CCAC added an adult indoor soccer league this year, they have gone from 105 kids in their indoor soccer program to about 150, and they have partnered with Kids Market who is sponsoring the soccer program. Hagy stated they got approved for a grant for 18 new soccer goals and from Warsaw City ARPA they got approved for 8 new scoreboards. This year will be their 30<sup>th</sup> year anniversary and they plan on having a celebration for the community. The new board elections will be on Monday 1-22-24.

**Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission  
March 13, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on March 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, Located at 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Mark Skibowski, President

John Hall, Treasurer *Via ZOOM*

Lyle Schrock, Vice-President  
Jessica Hartman, Secretary

Doug Shoemaker-Absent  
Kathy Ray- Member  
Matt Metzger-Absent

Also Present was Rhonda Helser, Kosciusko County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mark Skibowski.

All Voting was done via Roll Call voting as John Hall was not present in person, he attended via Zoom.

**In the Matter of Clarification of 2024 Elected Officers:**

**President: Mark Skibowski**

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Nominate Mark Skibowski as the President of the KCCRVC for 2024

**Vice President: Lyle Schrock**

Motion: Mark Skibowski  
Second: John Hall  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Nominate Lyle Schrock as the Vice President of the KCCRVC for 2024

**Treasurer: John Hall**

Motion: Jessica Hartman  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Nominate John Hall as the Treasurer of the KCCRVC for 2024

**Secretary: Jessica Hartman**

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Nominate Jessica Hartman as the Secretary of the KCCRVC for 2024

**Clarifications of Grant Funds from the Prior Year:**

Clarification of Motions made during the January 17, 2024, meeting when approving grants. It was mentioned that the grants approved would be paid for with 2023 appropriations. This is not allowable by the State Board of Accounts. All grants approved at the January 2024 meeting will be paid from 2024 appropriations. Any grants approved in 2023 but not paid until 2024 can / will be encumbered.

Motion: John Hall

Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion  
Carried

To: Correct / Clarify motions made at the 01/17/24 meeting. All grants will be paid from the 2024 appropriations and not 2023 appropriations.

### **Grant Requests**

#### **In the Matter of Echoes of the Past Request for Publicity Grant:**

Chris Morehouse, Marketing and Public Relations Manager presented a grant request for \$500.00 for radio advertising. Echoes of the Past is celebrating its 30th anniversary, a major milestone for the group. Morehouse explained that the group was applying for the grant for out-of-county advertising due to budget restraints. “The majority of the advertising they do is through Facebook,” Morehouse said, through Facebook groups and Echoes of the Past’s page, and their website is how they currently advertise for the group. Past events have drawn people to Kosciusko County from Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, and Wisconsin and the group believes with radio advertising outside of Kosciusko County there could be more out-of-county and out-of-state attendees.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

To: Approve a \$500.00 Publicity Grant for radio advertising for the 2024 Summer Festival.

Motion Carried

#### **In the Matter of Echoes of the Past Request for Tourism Grant:**

Chris Morehouse, Marketing and Public Relations Manager presented a grant request for \$8,186.00 for portable bleachers. To be used at their free public events. This request also includes the cost of a concrete pad for the bleachers to sit on at the Claypool Summer Festival. These bleachers would be located as the main viewing area for the tractor pulls in Claypool. Morehouse, went on to explain the Summer Fest Event and other events that they do over the year. “We have a huge event that we do in August called our Summer Fest,” Morehouse said, which she estimated hosts 300-500 guests a day. Morehouse reported that for the Summer Fest, guests have used chairs from the dining area to view entertainment such as the tractor pull and children’s events. The portable bleachers would provide seating for 54 people.

The bleachers would also be used for other events such as Cookies with Santa, which includes a sleigh ride. Morehouse, said last year 150 children took part, and there was a three-hour wait time for sleigh rides.

KCCRVC President Mark Skibowski clarified the request was \$6,186.00 for the bleachers and asked about the additional \$2,000 for cement. Morehouse said the area for the tractor pull was a “grassy, sandy area,” and that they wanted to lay cement for patron safety. Member Kathy Ray asked about the bleachers’ use at other locations, and Morehouse clarified the other areas were flatter, and would not need to have a concrete base. Lyle questioned the cash balance that the group currently has.

Morehouse explained that the group is also trying to save funds to build a pavilion at the Claypool location. Skibowski encouraged the group to return and ask for Grant Funds when they were ready to start the pavilion project. The group was encouraged to use the CVB event tracker. After the motion, more discussion about the bank balance was held between Morehouse and the KCCRVC Board. The board was informed that the bank balances of the group are always more at the beginning of the year as they have not had any of the 2024 events yet.

Motion: Jessica Hartman  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the grant request for bleachers for \$6,168.00 and \$2,000.00 for concrete, as presented. For a total of \$8,168.00

**In the Matter of The ASK BEN FRANKLIN “In his own Words” Publicity Grant Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua Wawasee:**

Mark Knecht President of the Oakwood Foundation Inc presented a request for a publicity grant on behalf of Chautauqua Wawasee Organization. This event is held in conjunction with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Barry Sanders is a professional actor who portrays Ben Franklin. The group has already started advertising and has advertised in the Visit Indiana e-newsletter for the June issue and that cost is fairly expensive according to Mark. The event is free and open to the public.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Publicity Grant for \$500.00 for Ask Ben Franklin

**In the Matter of The Plein Air Program Publicity Grant Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua Wawasee:**

Mark Knecht explained that this event/program was held 5 to 6 years ago and there is interest to start it again. This is a two-part program. There is a one-day event “The Paint Out” that will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the fine arts festival. The 2<sup>nd</sup> event is a three-day art workshop that will be held starting May 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>. They are partnering with the Northern Indiana Plein Air Association which has a vision of an art colony in the Syracuse Wawasee and Papakeechee area which could be a ten-year journey.

This publicity grant money would be used to advertise the above-mentioned events.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Publicity Grant for \$500.00 for Plein Air Program

**In the Matter of Advertising in the Annual BusinessWomen Directory of Northeast Indiana Publicity Grant Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua Wawasee:**

Mark Knecht presented information for this request. He said that 80% of programs that the foundation conducts are driven by women. This directory goes to 8000 businesswomen and can track the ad with a QR code within the ad. The cost of the ad is \$600.00 and will include an article about all the programs that the Oakwood Foundation conducts throughout the year.



Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Publicity Grant for \$500.00 for Advertising in the Annual Businesswomen Directory of Northeast Indiana

**In the Matter of Advertising in the Hamilton County Community Guide & Online Journal Publicity Grant Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua Wawasee:**

Mark Knecht explained that the Hamilton County Community Guide is a glossy high-quality publication published once in May. The online Journal is published 6 times a year. These ads will target the Carmel, Fishers, Zionsville, and Noblesville areas and the goal of this ad is to attract people to visit the “largest natural lake in Indiana”. These ads will also have the QR code and an online link to the chqw.org website to track the ads.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Publicity Grant for \$500.00 for Advertising in the Annual Businesswomen Directory of Northeast Indiana

**In the Matter of The Lake City Skiers Sponsorship Tourism Grant for Boat Motors:**

Chuck McLaughlin presented a request for \$7,703.28 for 1 quarterly payment on their boat motor purchase. Chuck said his request was for an ongoing grant which started some time ago. There were added 2023 expenses with four major tournaments being hosted. The Lake City Skiers will be holding tournaments again in 2024. Chuck also shared that most of the team was able to attend an annual awards event in Wisconsin in March of this year, the Lake Cities Skiers members received several individual awards. The group was awarded The Best Host in the Nation award, and they were asked to bid on the 2027 World Tournament. They were also recognized as the group with the largest membership. In, 2023 the group held four major tournaments which included state and national tournaments, along with several other local ski shows about every other week. After Chuck was done with his update Mark Skibowski added several comments about the Lake City Skiers organization and that several of its members have gone on to ski professionally at popular attraction areas around the United States.

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Sponsorship Tourism Grant in the amount requested \$7,703.28 for 1 quarterly payment for the Lake City Skiers boat motors.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC UPDATE:**

Mike Hagy, CCAC Director, presented an update about the upcoming season and other information as it related to the operations of the CCAC.

- Eighteen new soccer goals. These were purchased with grant fund from K21.

- Eight new score boards. These were purchased with ARPA funds from the City of Warsaw.
- In June of 24 the CCAC will again host a girl's fast pitch softball tournament that 63 teams will take part in. This is expected to bring an influx of people into the city, for approximately 3-5 days. Mike has a list of food truck vendors that he is sorting through for this weekend event.
- Mike said that he has a good board of directors that are active. He mentioned that Mark Skibowski and Jo Paczkowski are on the CCAC Board of Directors, and that Mark serves as the President.
- The hiring process for summer staff has begun.
- Mark spoke as the president of the KCCRVC board, on behalf of the CCAC board about the CCAC's current funding. He explained that the City of Warsaw removed \$20,000 from the 2024 budget that the CCAC had been receiving. The KCCRVC agreed to give \$20,000 more to accommodate this change. Mark recommended that the KCCRVC think about increasing the funding for the CCAC for 2025.
- Mike Hagy also added that 2024 is the 30th year of operations of the CCAC and that many things around the complex need repair.

**In the Matter of CVB Update:**

Cori Humes, KCCVB Executive Director, presented an update on the following information. Cori introduced a few of the CVB's board members who attended the meeting.

- She thanked the commission for funding the CVB projects.
- January and February occupancy report numbers are better than it was in 2023.
- Encouraged the use of the Sports & Events Calendar for economic and data collecting
- 1<sup>st</sup> quarter hotel meeting had a decent turnout. The sports organization of Kosciusko County attended the meeting to discuss upcoming events.
- 2024 Visitor Guide is completed and being distributed. The newly branded website is up and running. She encouraged all members to visit the site.
- The audit of the CVB results was shared with the Auditor's Office. No issues were found with the accounting procedures.
- She invited the Commission to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony that will introduce the new branding of the CVB. It will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1 pm at the Visitors Bureau.
- All the reports that she provided to the KCCRVC commission were quickly reviewed and that the strategy planning was completed.
- She reported that the roof project was completed last month and thanked the commission for the help provided with the project.
- Overall, it was a busy 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, and many goals were achieved as planned.

**In the Matter of The KCCRVC Meeting Minutes from the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Meeting:**

Mark Skibowski presented the January 17, 2024, meeting minutes for approval.

Motion: Jessica Hartman  
Second: Lyle Schrock

To: Accept the meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**In the Matter of The KCCRVC Financials:**

John Hall presented the financial report, stating that Innkeeper's receipts have increased a little compared to this time in 2023. The commission is in good shape financially.

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Jessica Hartman To: Accept the Financial Report as presented.  
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**In the Matter of the KCCRVC Ordinance / Grant Applications Review:**

Mark Skibowski attended a City of Warsaw Council meeting, and they discussed the distribution of capital project funds. Mark explained that they are considering paying the vendors 50% at the time of the award and the rest of the project cost once the project is completed. He requested Rhonda to ask her Attorney if this was something that could be done. The Attorney recommended that the commission should wait to see what develops with the city then the commission could revisit and consider following suit.

**In the Matter of The Limitless Park of Winona Lake:**

Mark Skibowski read a thank you letter from Holly Hummitch, Winona Lake Limitless Park Director. She thanked the commission for the grant awarded in June 2022. The letter stated that the boat rental revenue for the park district increased 98% in 2023.

**In the Matter of the 2025 KCCRVC Budget:**

Mark Skibowski & John Hall have worked on the 2025 KCCRVC budget. Mark distributed a proposed 2025 budget to the commission to review. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

**Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission  
May 8, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on May 8, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Kathy Ray	John Hall, Treasurer
Mark Skibowski,-President	Doug Shoemaker arrived at 9:09 am
Jessica Hartman-Secretary	Lyle Schrock-Vice President
	Matt Metzger-Absent

Also present was Rhonda Helser, Kosciusko County Auditor.

The meeting was called to order by Mark Skibowski.

**Grant Requests**

**IN THE MATTER OF KCV CYCLING CLUB TOURISM GRANT:**

Kosciusko County Velo Cycling Club Treasurer, Nick Hauck presented a request for Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$6,200.00 for the Fat & Skinny Tire Fest. Hauck stated a lot of the money will be used for tents, toilets, sound, music, and light towers. They are trying to make Third Fridays and Fat & Skinny Tire Fest a gigantic event in downtown Warsaw.

Motion: Kathy Ray

Second: Lyle Schrock

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Motion Carried

To: Approve the KCV Cycling Club

Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of

\$6,200.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SYRACUSE-WAWASEE ROTARY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION TOURISM GRANT-TOUR DES LAKES 2024:**

Tour Des Lakes Representative, Matthew Buchard presented a request for Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$3,317.34 to help with advertising. Buchard stated they are on track right now with over 100 registered riders for the event. They look to continue joining Non-Profits in the County to help raise funds for the event.

Motion: Jessica Hartman

Second: John Hall

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Motion Carried

To: Approve the Syracuse-Wawasee Rotary

Charitable Foundation-Tour Des Lakes

Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of

\$3,317.34, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ECHOES OF THE PAST TOURISM GRANT:**

Echoes of the Past board member, Christine Morehouse presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$63,029.40 for a 40 x 60 pavilion. Morehouse stated that they had applied with the City of Warsaw for ARPA funds but were denied. She commented that the pavilion has been constructed with the help of some generous club members. It is located on the corner of County Farm road and CR 700 S. in Claypool. They have a little over \$40,000.00 in expenses that has not been paid out yet.

Motion: John Hall

Second: Kathy Ray

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion Carried

To: Approve the Tourism Sponsorship Grant

in the amount of \$25,000.00 to help fund the

pavilion build project.

**IN THE MATTER OF LOST SPARROWS, INC TOURISM GRANT:**

Lost Sparrows, Inc. President, Darren Gagnon presented a request for Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 for their upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> annual Trauma Conference. They are hoping it turns into a regional conference. Gagnon stated they have roughly 25 speakers that are local, and all over the country as well.

KCCRVC member, Kathy Ray encouraged Gagnon to get with Cori Humes with the CVB to use the tourism calculator to plug in numbers and see what impact it had.

Motion: Jessica Hartman  
Second:  
Had a motion, lack of  
second.

To: Approve the Lost Sparrows Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$20,000.00, as presented.

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Lost Sparrows Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$17,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLASSIC ARTS PROGRAMS INC. TOURISM GRANT:**

Communications and Marketing Team Leader, Michael Lewis along with President, Lori Widman presented a request for Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00. Lewis stated this grant would assist them on rebranding their web page, song folders and other general marketing plans. Lewis stated this year they will be celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, and will be adding an additional concert.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Classic Arts Programs Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC TOURISM GRANT:**

CCAC Director, Mike Hagy stated last fall KCCRVC was gracious enough to approve CCAC for a grant of \$50,000.00 for remodeling of the west side facility, restrooms, and concessions. Hagy stated they did have some issues with the contractor that initially put in the quotes. They did put out feelers for new ones. That project is now completed and they came in under budget, saving about \$30,000.00. Hagy then requested a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$14,000.00, to update the public restrooms.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the CCAC Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$14,000.00, as presented.

**RETURNING OF \$30,000.00 FROM CCAC:**

2024 Complete KCCRVC Meeting Minutes

The remaining \$30,000 left over from a grant approved on 7/12/2023 will be returned to KCCRVC for them to re-distribute.

Motion: Mark Skibowski  
Second: John Hall  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the returning of \$30,000.00 from CCAC that was awarded from a prior grant dated 7/12/2023.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC UPDATE:**

CCAC Director, Mike Hagy presented an update on the following information.

- All 18 new soccer goals will be completed by the end of the week.
- 8 new score boards are in the works to be completed.
- Almost 400 kids are participating in the KCSL soccer program.
- Indoor rental is continuing to grow.

**IN THE MATTER OF CVB UPDATE:**

KCCVB Executive Director, Cori Humes presented an update on the following information. Humes introduced a few of the CVB's board members who were in attendance.

- Hosting 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter hoteliers meeting on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. They are having a guest speaker from Lake City Skiers, Amanda Davis.
- Their board and staff are working on a destination and marketing accreditation program.
- Clearly Kosciusko rebrand has been a significant gain.
- A new back door to the Visitor's Bureau building was installed.
- National Tour and Travel Week is May 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.
- They are bringing the Visitors Guide back in county with The Papers for publication printing. The sales will be starting in July.

**IN THE MATTER OF MARCH 13, 2024 MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Minutes from the March 13, 2024 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the March 13, 2024 meeting minutes, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCCRVC FINANCIALS:**

John Hall presented the financial report stating the following:

- Doing good on the receipts.
- Hotels are up to date on their remittance.
- Financially in good shape.

Motion: Lyle Schrock  
Second: Kathy Ray  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Accept the financial report as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF WAGES, TAXES, ETC FOR REIMBURSEMENT:**

Mark Skibowski held a lengthy discussion on the matter of wages, taxes etc. for reimbursement by the CCAC for their operational expenses. Several scenarios were discussed. It was motioned that the agreement provided for the CVB should be the same for the CCAC going forward. An agreement will be drawn up for the CCAC and presented at the next meeting.

Motion: Kathy Ray  
Second: Jessica Hartman  
Ayes: 6            Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the agreement that is provided for the CVB be the same for the CCAC for operational expenses.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2025 BUDGET:**

Mark Skibowski led the budget discussion. In looking at the four categories of the budget, Skibowski proposed the following:

- CVB                    \$510,000.00
- CCAC                 \$155,000.00
- Grants                \$245,000.00
- Administration    \$ 15,000.00

The total budget amount of \$925,000.00 for 2025.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 6            Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve budget of \$510,000.00 for CVB, \$155,000.00 for CCAC, \$245,000.00 for Grants, and \$15,000.00 for Administration. Total budget amount of \$925,000.00 for 2025.

Being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

**Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission  
July 17, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on July 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Mark Skibowski -President	John Hall -Treasurer
Lyle Schrock -Vice-President	Matt Metzger
Kathy Ray	

Also present was Rhonda Helser, Kosciusko County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mark Skibowski.

**Grant Requests**

**IN THE MATTER OF OAKWOOD FOUNDATION-FAMOUS HOOSIERS-JOHN WOODEN-PUBLICITY GRANT REQUEST:**

Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua-Wawasee advisor Sally Mahnken presented a request for a publicity grant in the amount of \$500.00. Mahnken stated there were 120 people at the Famous Hoosiers event. Mahnken stated everyone that attended the event said they cannot wait for the next event.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the John Wooden publicity grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF OAKWOOD FOUNDATION-STORIES OF THE MYAAMIKI PEOPLE-PUBLICITY GRANT REQUEST:**

Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua-Wawasee advisor Sally Mahnken presented a request for a publicity grant in the amount of \$500.00. Mahnken stated there were nearly 100 people at the Myaamiaki People event. Mahnken stated a lot of the people were outside of Kosciusko County.

Motion: John Hall  
Second: Lyle Schrock  
Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

To: Approve the Myaamiaki People publicity grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CVB UPDATE:**

KCCVB Executive Director Cori Humes presented an update on the following information.

- 50% of travelers that were surveyed are planning at least one trip in July and August.
- Still seeing some minimal increases on the occupancy report from 2023.
- Bandwago provided a free additional passport to CVB. It is called the Waterways Passport.
- Partnered with Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams and Tippy River Adventures.
- Still continuing to collect the data for their Sports and Events Calculator.
- Hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter hoteliers meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Started their visitors guide sales for 2025.
- Continuing their work as a staff and a board to work towards their Destination Marketing Accreditation Program.
- Hosting 3 social media influencers this summer.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC AGREEMENT:**

Vice President Mark Skibowski presented the CCAC agreement for discussion and approval. Skibowski stated that Adam Turner, attorney made one suggestion to spell out specifically what



the CCAC does for the county. He didn't think it needed to be included and that they could include their mission statement. Skibowski stated for distributions it would be split up in 4 payments.

MOTION: Kathy Ray  
SECOND: Lyle Schrock  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the CCAC Agreement with updated dates and budget information, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2024 MINUTES:**

MOTION: Lyle Schrock  
SECOND: Kathy Ray  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the May 8, 2024 minutes, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW OF FINANCIALS, GRANT WORKSHEET AND INNKEEPER REMITTANCE:**

Treasurer John Hall presented reviews of Financials, Grant Worksheet, and Innkeeper Remittance. Hall stated they are in good shape, the income is up. Skibowski stated in 2023 they still had \$246,000.00 to appropriate. Skibowski stated that they have not used all of the 2023 funds so that will stay in the account. He added that they need to get the word out to non-profits that they have funds available to request, and hoping that the media will get that information out into the community. Cori Humes with the CVB offered to spread the word as well. Skibowski, stated that he picked up the 2021 and 2022 Financial Audit from Dahms & Yarian for their review. The audit shows that they are in good shape.

MOTION: Kathy Ray  
SECOND: Lyle Schrock  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Accept the Financial reports, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Lyle Schrock stated Echoes of the Past is going to start doing different things for third Fridays. Schrock stated he sees them doing a lot more in the community.

Being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

## **Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission September 11, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on September 11, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Mark Skibowski -President

John Hall, Treasurer

Lyle Schrock –Vice-President

Matt Metzger

Kathy Ray

Also present was Rhonda Helser, Kosciusko County Auditor.

The meeting was called to order by Mark Skibowski.

### **Grant Requests**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CCAC AGREEMENT:**

The terms for the CCAC agreement were approved on 7-17-2024, the agreement was signed by the KCCRVC Board.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CVB UPDATE:**

KCCVB Executive Director Cori Humes presented an update on the following information.

- Travels rates were up at least 47% for one overnight in June
- 50.9% increase in leisure trips for at least one night in July
- Trend slightly decreased to about 47%
- Still collecting data for sports and events calculators
- 4<sup>th</sup> quarter hotel year meeting in November
- Visitor guide for 2025-2026 sales have concluded
- Working on the Destination Marketing Accreditation Program with the national organization called Destinations International as a staff and board
- Hosted three social media influencers this summer
- Hosted travel writer and influencer William Flood-highlighting antiques and garage sales

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CCAC UPDATE:**

CCAC Director Mike Hagy presented an update on the following information.

- 38 more kids enrolled in soccer this season
- 15-20 more matches were held compared to last year
- Indoor rentals have doubled or tripled, marking significant growth

Hagy stated the CCAC will soon need renovations and maintenance, particularly for indoor spaces.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF LAKE CITY SKIERS:**

Lake City Skiers Amanda Davis extended their thanks for motor donations, and shared plans to bid for the 2027 World Championships, which would bring in thousands of attendees from out of the community. Davis stated transportation is needed from airports to Warsaw. Davis also stated Lake City Skiers hosted D1 nationals and regionals.

**IN THE MATTER OF SOUL TAKER’S ACRES-PUBLICITY SPONSORSHIP GRANT:**

Kevin Harris representing the haunted attraction Soul Taker’s Acres, presented a request for a Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$500.00 for a social media campaign. The event brings a significant influx of visitors and has become a major regional attraction. It is the biggest fundraiser for the fairgrounds.

MOTION: Kathy Ray TO: Approve the Soul Taker’s Acres  
SECOND: Lyle Schrock Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 \$500.00, as presented.  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF SOUL TAKER’S ACRES-TOURISM SPONSORSHIP GRANT:**

Kevin Harris representing the haunted attraction Soul Taker’s Acres, presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 to support radio and billboard advertising.

The board encouraged Harris to come earlier next year. Kathy Ray recommended Harris using the sports calculator for data in the future.

MOTION: Kathy Ray TO: Approve the Soul Taker’s Acres  
SECOND: John Hall Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 \$2,500.00, as presented.  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024-2025 LILLY CENTER TOXIN/E. COLI PROGRAM-TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

Director of Lilly Center Lakes & Streams Nate Bosch presented a request for Lilly Center Toxin/E, Coli Program Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00. Bosch stated the biggest draw to the area is the lakes, and the biggest threat to the lakes is blue-green algae toxins. Bosch stated Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams plans to increase testing from 10 to 15 weeks next summer and a new algae type will be included in the testing.

MOTION: John Hall TO: Approve the Lilly Center Toxin/E. Coli  
SECOND: Matt Metzger Program Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the  
AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 amount of \$30,000.00, as presented.  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF LEESBURG METHODIST-COUNTRY CHRISTMAS:**

Leesburg Methodist Pastor Rob Seewald presented a request for Country Christmas with Susie and Mark McEntire event in the amount of \$5,199.00 to support advertising and accommodations funding. This event is set to take place at Lakeview Middle School Saturday, December 14. This fundraiser benefits Toys for Tots, with admission being a toy. This event draws attendees from out of state and has a capacity of 800. Seewald provided information showing a \$60,000.00 economic impact from the event.

MOTION: Lyle Schrock

SECOND: Kathy Ray

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Country Christmas with Susie and Mark McEntire event in the amount of \$5,199.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW OF FINANCIALS, GRANT WORKSHEET AND INNKEEPER REMITTANCE:**

Treasurer John Hall presented reviews of Financials, Grant Worksheet, and Innkeeper Remittance. Hall stated the financials are increasing.

MOTION: Kathy Ray

TO: Accept the Financial reports, as presented.

SECOND: Lyle Schrock

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

**Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission  
November 13, 2024**

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on November 13, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Mark Skibowski -President-Absent  
Lyle Schrock –Vice-President  
Kathy Ray

John Hall, Treasurer  
Matt Metzger-Absent  
Mike Loher  
Chris Polk

The meeting was called to order by Lyle Schrock.

**IN THE MATTER OF SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS:**

Mike Loher and Chris Polk were sworn in as new board members for 2025.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 MINUTES:**

MOTION: John Hall

TO: Approve the September 11, 2024 minutes, as presented.

SECOND: Kathy Ray

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

MOTION: Kathy Ray

TO: Approve the claims, as presented.

SECOND: John Hall

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF 2025 CVB AGREEMENT:**

The 2025 CVB Agreement was presented for approval.

MOTION: John Hall  
SECOND: Kathy Ray  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2025 CVB Agreement, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2025 INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT:**

The 2025 KCCRVC Inter-Local Agreement was presented for approval.

MOTION: Chris Polk  
SECOND: Mike Loher  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2025 KCCRVC Inter-Local Agreement, as presented.

**Grant Requests**

**IN THE MATTER OF CHAUTAUQUA WAWASEE-OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS AND BALL STATE SINGERS' PUBLICITY GRANT REQUEST:**

Oakwood Foundation Inc. Chautauqua Wawasee advisor Sally Mahnken presented a request for a Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$500.00 for Old Fashioned Christmas. Mahnken stated this is one of the most anticipated of their events throughout the year. This event will be held on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Mahnken also presented a request for a Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$500.00 for Ball State Singers. This event will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

MOTION: John Hall  
SECOND: Kathy Ray  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Old-Fashioned Christmas grant request in the amount of \$500.00 and approve Ball State Singers grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ECHOES OF THE PAST- SUMMERFEST TRACTOR SHOW & PULL PUBLICITY GRANT REQUEST:**

Marketing and Public Relations Manager Chris Morehouse presented a request for a Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$500.00 for the 2025 SummerFest Tractor Show & Pull.

MOTION: Kathy Ray  
SECOND: Mike Loher  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the SummerFest Tractor Show & Pull grant request in the amount of \$500.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ECHOES OF THE PAST-TOURISM GRANT REQUEST:**

Marketing and Public Relations Manager Chris Morehouse presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 to make a well to have restrooms and running water for greater accessibility at their events. Morehouse stated, "Echoes of the Past is not just a tractor club, we service the community in so many other ways." Morehouse explained all the extra community projects that they do. Morehouse also stated, "I am also chair person of Wheels on Fire Cancer Crusaders, I wear that hat on all these weekends as well. We are in charge of the

food. By partnering with Echoes of the Past, we are able to give away \$75,000.00 this year to local cancer patients.

Morehouse stated this is their 30-year anniversary.

MOTION: Kathy Ray

SECOND: Chris Polk

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Water/Restrooms grant request in the amount of \$10,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCV CYCLING CLUB-FAT & SKINNY TIRE FEST TOURISM GRANT REQUEST:**

Kosciusko County Velo Cycling Club Treasurer Nick Hauck and President Mike Cusick presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$32,300.00 for the 2025 Fat & Skinny Tire Festival. Hauck stated, "We are one of the nation's largest multi-day events. We have been around for 20 years and we bring in several thousand riders throughout the nation. Last year our furthest team was from California." Hauck also stated, "Some of the increase expenses is because we have had a long-term timing company that has been with us since the inception and they both retired this year. They have kept their rates the same since the beginning of the festival. Unfortunately, the new companies are so dramatically more expensive than the previous company was. We are looking at a new timing company, we signed a contract last week and they are over \$10,000.00 more than the previous company." It costs about \$130,000.00 for the festival.

MOTION: Kathy Ray

SECOND: Lyle Schrock

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Fat & Skinny Tire Fest Tourism grant request in the amount of \$32,300.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCV CYCLING CLUB-HAUTH TRAILHEAD BIKE PARK TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

Kosciusko County Velo Cycling Club Treasurer Nick Hauck and President Mike Cusick presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the Hauth Trailhead Bike Park. Hauck stated this is a 2024 grant. Hauck stated, "We had the opportunity in partnership with K21 to buy 15 acres of land adjacent to the mountain bike trails of Winona Lake. The land itself was \$250,000.00 and we have already raised \$197,000.00 of that to be paid off. K21 loaned us the money, so we are a year ahead of schedule right now and it will be paid off early spring." Cusick stated this is set to be the largest bike park within a 3-hour radius.

MOTION: John Hall

SECOND: Kathy Ray

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Hauth Trailhead Bike Park Tourism grant request in the amount of \$25,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC-INDOOR BUILDING ROOF TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

CCAC Director Mike Hagy presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the leaking roof. Hagy stated this will be a new roof and will have a 30-year warranty. Hagy stated the indoor facilities is their number one generator of revenue for the winter months. Hagy stated the indoor facility allows them to host their indoor soccer, indoor basketball, and a huge rental for parties.

MOTION: John Hall  
SECOND: Kathy Ray  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Indoor Building Roof  
Tourism grant request in the amount of  
\$30,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CCAC-DUGOUT ROOFING TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

CCAC Director Mike Hagy presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$13,000.00 for the dugout roofing labor and costs.

MOTION: John Hall  
SECOND: Kathy Ray  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Dugout Roofing Tourism  
grant request in the amount of \$13,000.00, as  
presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAKE CITY SKIERS-MOTOR PURCHASE TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

Lake City Skiers Tracy Patrick on behalf of Amanda Davis presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$7,703.28 for motor costs. Patrick stated the balance of the loans for the motors is in the amount of \$39,600.00.

MOTION: John Hall  
SECOND: Chris Polk  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve a grant approximately  
\$39,600.00 to pay off the loans for the  
motors, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF FERIA GUADALUPANA PUBLICITY SPONSORSHIP:**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Coordinator Diana Diaz-Barriga presented a request for a Publicity Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$500.00 for Feria Guadalupana. Diaz-Barriga stated this event is the only and largest Hispanic festival in the county. Diaz-Barriga stated the event is always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of August.

MOTION: Kathy Ray  
SECOND: Chris Polk  
AYES: 5 NAYES:0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Publicity Sponsorship  
grant requested in the amount of \$500.00 for  
Feria Guadalupana, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF FERIA GUADALUPANA ELECTRIC UPDATE TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Coordinator Diana Diaz-Barriga presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$11,941.19 for an electrical update for the event. Diaz-Barriga stated one part of the grant request is getting more electrical posts added. Diaz-Barriga stated they received a stage that had been made, therefore the second part of the grant request is paying for the materials.

There was discussion about generators for the event. The cost to rent a generator for two days is about \$16,000.00

MOTION: Kathy Ray  
SECOND: Lyle Schrock  
AYES: NAYES:0

TO: Table the request in the amount of  
\$11,941.19 for an electrical update for the  
event until January while Diaz-Barriga can

MOTION CARRIED  
TABLED

look into cheaper options such as renting a generator, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CVB-PLACER.AI-ECONOMIC IMPACT SOFTWARE TOURISM SPONSORSHIP:**

KCCVB Executive Director Cori Humes presented a request for a Tourism Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$23,000.00 per year for Placer.ai, an economic impact software. Humes stated the tool will allow the Visitors Bureau to see what cities people are coming from who attend Kosciusko events and where they go before and after the event, such as restaurants and hotels. This will help calculate the participation and economic impact of community events. It will also allow the Visitors Bureau to improve their marketing to tailor to the demographics of individuals participating, as well as possible untapped markets.

Commission Vice President Lyle Schrock asked how long the price would be locked in for. Humes stated the contract would be for two years. Schrock asked if the software would require setup pre-events, which has not been successful in the past.

Humes stated no pre-event setup is required, the Visitors Bureau would be able to pull location data going back to 2017. Humes also stated the software will offer unlimited requests for location data reports. Schrock advised to ensure the company would allow unlimited users as well, which the company mentioned in its informational packet.

MOTION: Lyle Schrock

TO: Approve the Tourism Sponsorship grant requested in the amount of \$23,000.00 for Placer.ai, an economic impact software, as presented.

SECOND: Mike Loher

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW OF FINANCIALS, GRANT WORKSHEET AND INNKEEPER REMITTANCE:**

Treasurer John Hall presented reviews of Financials, Grant Worksheet, and Innkeeper Remittance. Hall stated the financials are in good shape.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2025 KCCRVC MEETING DATES:**

The 2025 KCCRVC meeting dates were approved, moving the January meeting to January 15.

MOTION: Lyle Schrock

TO: Approve the 2025 Meeting Dates, with the change of moving January's meeting to January 15, as presented.

SECOND: Chris Polk

AYES: 5 NAYES:0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF KCCRVC LOGO DISCUSSION:**

There was discussion creating a KCCRVC logo in the future. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Nick Hauck stood and thanked the CCAC and Lake City Skiers for bringing folks to the community. Hauck stated he sees the people those organizations bring into the county dining and shopping in the Village at Winona.



## 2024 Complete KCCRVC Meeting Minutes

Being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.