

Big Sky Resort Area District Board Meeting

March 13, 2019 | 8:30 am

Resort Tax Office - 11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite 204, Big Sky, MT

08:30:21 AM (00:01:58) Call meeting to order

- Kevin Germain, Chair
- Steve Johnson, Vice Chair
- Buz Davis, Secretary
- Sarah Blechta, Treasurer
- Mike Scholz, Director
- Rosie Barndt, Compliance Auditor
- Mathew Cope, Accountant (remotely)
- Kristin Drain, Tax Revenue Manager
- Whitney Brunner, Assistant Manager
- Artem Pechischev, Administrative Assistant

A. Public Comment

08:30:29 AM (00:02:06) Candace Carr Straus (Big Sky Chamber of Commerce) announced Bureau of Business and Economic research meeting will take a place on March 14th 2019 at Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

B. Consent Agenda

08:31:20 AM (00:02:57) **Motion:** To approve the consent agenda excluding the financial reports: Sarah Blechta.

08:31:28 AM (00:03:05) **Second:** Buz Davis.

08:31:35 AM (00:03:12) **Comment:** Mike Scholz to remove the Melissa Turley from Jackson Hole, WY correspondence.

08:31:46 AM (00:03:23) **Amended Motion:** Sarah Blechta.

08:31:51 AM (00:03:28) **Second to Amended Motion:** Buz Davis.

08:31:58 AM (00:03:35) **Vote:** All in favor. Motion Passed.

a. Minutes for Approval

b. Correspondence

08:32:11 AM (00:03:48) Board Members highlighted issues related to mountain town communities, mentioned in correspondence from Melissa Turley from Jackson Hole, WY.

08:34:21 AM (00:05:58) Mike Scholz proposed to provide Ms. Turley's letters to Logan Simpson for the Visioning Process. Mr. Scholz also recommended adding membership to the Colorado Ski Towns Association as an agenda item for the April Board Meeting.

08:34:59 AM (00:06:35) **Public comment:** Laura Seyfang (Big Sky Housing Trust) commented on rentals and the Meadowview employee housing project.

c. Treasurer report

d. **Financials report**

08:36:26 AM (00:08:03) Mathew Cope joined the meeting via the phone. Sarah Blechta explained the new way financial information will be provided to the Board at monthly meetings.

08:37:11 AM (00:08:48) Mike Scholz asked Mathew Cope to add a summary to the report.

08:37:59 AM (00:09:36) Mathew Cope commented regarding financial report.

08:38:55 AM (00:10:32) Mathew Cope left the meeting.

08:38:57 AM (00:10:34) **Motion:** To Accept Melissa Turley correspondence and the financial reports: Kevin Germain.

08:39:05 AM (00:10:42) **Second:** Mike Scholz.

08:39:10 AM (00:10:47) **Vote:** All in favor. Motion Passed.

C. **Regular Agenda**

1. **Old Business**

a. **Big Sky Community Strategic Plan: *Update***

08:39:17 AM (00:10:54) Board Members exchanged their opinions about events Logan Simpsons ran in February and impressed their positive opinions on this matter.

08:42:42 AM (00:14:18) **Public comment:** Laura Seyfang (Big Sky Housing Trust) thanked Board Members for a really good job on this project.

08:42:53 AM (00:14:30) Board Members reviewed public reaction caused by events and debated positive and negative sides of the District sponsoring the project.

b. **Staffing Structure: District Manager: *Update***

08:44:18 AM (00:15:55) Kevin Germain provided an update on the hiring process of a District Manager for the District.

c. **Legislative Session: Defensive Lobbying: *Discussion***

08:44:45 AM (00:16:22) Mike Scholz gave an update regarding bills related to defensive lobbying and talked about the Gateway Tax Bill. Board Members discussed the bill and its relation to resort tax . The property tax relief was also discussed.

08:49:14 AM (00:20:50) Board Members reviewed the lodging tax situation statewide and in Whitefish, MT specifically.

08:51:51 AM (00:23:27) **Public comment:** Candace Carr Straus (Big Sky Chamber of Commerce) shared information about SB1369 and SB1444 that she has been monitoring.

d. **Legislative Session: Resort Tax Bill: *Update***

08:53:20 AM (00:24:56) Mike Scholz and Steve Johnson provided an update on SB241.

08:55:23 AM (00:26:59) Kevin Germain and Steve Johnson explained the 1% tax and how it could be approved and used inside the community. Steve Johnson talked about the way the bill passed the vote at the Taxation Committee and its future at the Montana Senate. Board Members discussed the situation with bonds and the future possibilities if SB241 would pass.

08:59:47 AM (00:31:23) **Public comment:** Candace Carr Straus (Big Sky Chamber of Commerce) commented on a social media coverage of SB241.

e. ID Theft Protection Insurance: *Discussion*

09:00:33 AM (00:32:09) Board Members discussed final options for Id Theft Protection Insurance implementation.

f. Other

2. New Business – none.

a. Attorney Project List: Discussion

09:03:21 AM (00:34:57) Troy Bentson introduced himself. Board Members reviewed a list of projects they would like the new attorneys to work on.

09:07:24 AM (00:39:00) Board Members exchanged opinions of the situation with online retailers, lodging tax and mandatory business license registration ideas.

09:11:16 AM (00:42:53) Steve Johnson talked about the compliance audit process and modifications to the ordinances. Board Members talked about ordinances, business licensing and state involvement the attorney's projects.

09:21:03 AM (00:52:39) Kevin Germain stated an order to the projects for the attorneys to work on the next 30 days. Board Members talked about different aspects of it.

09:32:43 AM (01:04:20) Kevin Germain made a statement on the new attorneys upcoming projects.

b. Other

09:39:33 AM (01:11:09) Board Members provided feedback on a new AV Capture software implementation.

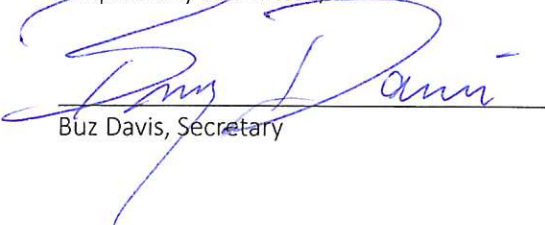
D. Public Comment – none.

09:50:01 AM (01:21:38) **Motion:** To adjourn the Open Meeting: Kevin Germain.

09:50:13 AM (01:21:50) **Vote:** No vote needed.

09:50:18 AM (01:21:55) **Adjournment**

Respectfully Submitted,



Buz Davis, Secretary