



## Big Sky Resort Area District Board Meeting

---

May 13, 2019 | 1:00 pm  
Resort Tax Office - 11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite 204, Big Sky, MT  
Open Session

- Kevin Germain, Chair
- Steve Johnson, Vice Chair
- Buz Davis, Secretary
- Sarah Blechta, Treasurer
- Mike Scholz, Director
- Daniel Bierschwale, District Manager
- Troy Bentson, Attorney (remotely)
- Kristin Drain, Tax Revenue Manager
- Whitney Brunner, Assistant Manager
- Artem Pechischev, Administrative Assistant

[01:02:02 PM \(00:01:08\)](#) **Call meeting to order:** Kevin Germain

### A. Public Comment

[01:04:52 PM \(00:03:58\)](#) Building Community forum on Thurs 6pm-8pm at Lone Peak Cinema

[01:05:53 PM \(00:04:59\)](#) Meadow View ribbon cutting May 30<sup>th</sup> 4pm

### B. Consent Agenda

[01:06:16 PM \(00:05:22\)](#) **Motion:** To approve the consent agenda: Sarah Blechta

[01:06:19 PM \(00:05:25\)](#) **Second:** Buz Davis

[01:06:27 PM \(00:05:33\)](#) **Vote:** All in favor. Motion Passed.

### C. Regular Agenda

#### 1. Old Business

##### a. District Manager Report

[01:06:34 PM \(00:05:40\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed budget proposal and updates regarding Logan Simpson with completion scheduled for November.

[01:08:44 PM \(00:07:50\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale proposed operation calendar and vision for the upcoming fiscal year with feedback from Sarah Blechta.

[01:18:20 PM \(00:17:26\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed budget and opens discussion to board.

[01:20:15 PM \(00:19:21\)](#) Sarah Blechta had no additional questions, agreed with budget proposal.

[01:20:22 PM \(00:19:28\)](#) Kevin Germain raised question regarding when public budget approval should take place, board members discussed options.

[01:22:17 PM \(00:21:23\)](#) Board members discussed office space, current space deficiencies, and privacy concerns of current space due to lack of private offices.

[01:23:56 PM \(00:23:02\)](#) Kevin Germain questioned board and public meeting locations. Board members discuss pros and cons of various locations.

[01:28:08 PM \(00:27:14\)](#) Timeline for finalization and adoption of budget discussed, board in agreement for a draft in time for the Appropriations meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

[01:31:11 PM \(00:30:17\)](#) Steve Johnson raised questions and concerns regarding 1% infrastructure and how it fits in the budget. Board members discussed.

[01:33:28 PM \(00:32:34\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed thoughts on community funding initiatives and education and how it relates to proposed budget.

[01:36:53 PM \(00:35:59\)](#) Board members discussed legislative initiatives and events in conjunction with other resort tax communities. Daniel Bierschwale suggested possibility of forming an association of resort tax communities.

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

[01:40:35 PM \(00:39:41\)](#) Steve Johnson and Buz Davis gave updates regarding schedule of summer events, community engagements, and participation invites.

**c./d. Legislative Session: Resort Tax Bill: *Discussion***

[01:45:50 PM \(00:44:56\)](#) Steve Johnson updated board on legislative session votes and taxation within the state and his discussions with Daryl James and infrastructure ideas.

**e. Colorado Association of Ski Towns Membership: *Action***

[01:51:37 PM \(00:50:43\)](#) Board decided, and all agreed, action moved to end of old business.

**f. Administrative Ordinance 98-01, as amended (effective on: June 1, 2015): Plan and process for amendment: *Action***

[01:52:38 PM \(00:51:44\)](#) Kevin Germain and board reviewed ordinance amendment for clarification on alcohol & tobacco regarding what is taxable. Proposed language for clarity along with legal counsel.

[01:56:08 PM \(00:55:14\)](#) Kevin Germain read ordinance and proposed striking language to include all alcohol sales.

[01:57:05 PM \(00:56:11\)](#) Board members discussed public hearings for amendment, Sarah Blechta suggested 1 hearing at 'Q&A' and other at July appropriations meeting. No action decided for now.

[01:57:54 PM \(00:57:00\)](#) Steve Johnson asked question regarding vaping inclusion; board decided it is covered under "nicotine delivery device."

[02:00:47 PM \(00:59:53\)](#) Sarah Blechta questioned the taxing of matches, lighters, etc. Board members agreed to strike language to not include matches/lighters.

[02:03:48 PM \(01:02:54\)](#) **Motion:** To strike 'ie' to 'etc' (in regards to including matches/lighters): Kevin Germain

[02:03:56 PM \(01:03:02\)](#) **Second:** Sarah Blechta

[02:04:00 PM \(01:03:06\)](#) **Vote:** All in favor. Motion Passed.

Board moved into closed session. [02:05:52 PM \(01:04:58\)](#)

**Return:** [02:07:34 PM \(01:06:40\)](#)

**e. Colorado Association of Ski Towns Membership: Action**

[02:08:25 PM \(01:07:31\)](#) Sarah Blechta **Motion:** to join Colorado Association of Ski Towns

[02:08:30 PM \(01:07:36\)](#) **Second:** Steve Johnson

[02:08:53 PM \(01:07:59\)](#) **Vote:** All in favor. Motion Passed.

**f. Administrative Ordinance**

[02:09:24 PM \(01:08:30\)](#) Sarah Blechta shared opinion regarding subcommittee. Board discusses pros and cons of subcommittee. Members agreed to not form subcommittee.

[02:12:40 PM \(01:11:46\)](#) Steve Johnson discussed constraints by law and resolution and identified areas to address and describe in ordinance.

[02:16:25 PM \(01:15:31\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale proposed working with Troy to develop a framework and outline to establish milestones for board decisions regarding ordinance.

[02:17:06 PM \(01:16:12\)](#) Steve Johnson suggested objective to have ordinance in place by ski season and Sarah Blechta agreed. Board members discussed framework and timeline for ordinance review.

**g. Other**

[02:23:42 PM \(01:22:48\)](#) Board members discussed the recent lodging tax increase and its impact on Big Sky.

**2. New Business**

**a./b. Q&A Question Submittal: *Discussion***

[02:27:14 PM \(01:26:20\)](#) Steve Johnson and Daniel Bierschwale discussed timeline for question submission.

[02:28:12 PM \(01:27:18\)](#) Sarah Blechta voiced questions and concerns with redundancy.

[02:29:36 PM \(01:28:42\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale clarified application process for questions and responses. Board packets with questions and responses will be public. Board discussed pros and cons of options for response clarification and follow up questions.

[02:39:53 PM \(01:38:59\)](#) *Public comments regarding questions and response options.*

[02:43:27 PM \(01:42:33\)](#) Sarah Blechta felt strongly responses should be verbal and not written.

[02:48:11 PM \(01:47:17\)](#) Chamber and Housing Trust voice concerns.

[02:49:35 PM \(01:48:41\)](#) All in agreement to receive questions in advance to Q&A

c. **Budget: Discussion (earlier in meeting)**

d. **Other**

[02:52:40 PM \(01:51:46\)](#) Buz Davis had questions regarding priorities and processes for allocating funds.

[02:59:30 PM \(01:58:36\)](#) Board discussed ideas for more collaboration with applicants during appropriations process. Suggestions were made that applicants meet in advance to be more collaborative.

[03:02:17 PM \(02:01:23\)](#) Daniel Bierschwale suggested adding this to Logan Simpson.

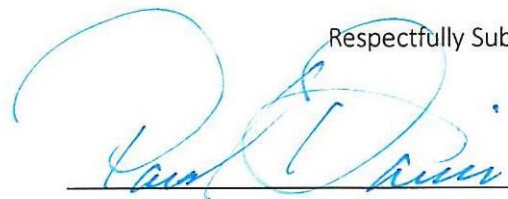
**Motion:** To adjourn the Open Meeting: [03:08:47 PM \(02:07:53\)](#)

**Vote:** No vote needed.

**Adjournment**

*For more information please contact Sara Huger at [info@resorttax.org](mailto:info@resorttax.org) or 406-995-3234*

*Big Sky Resort Area District Board meetings are open to all members of the public.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
  
Buz Davis, Secretary