



Board Meeting Minutes

April 19th, 2023 | 9:00am

Big Sky Resort Area District
11 Lone Peak Drive #204
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April's Board meeting was held on Wednesday, April 19th at 9:00am at the Resort Tax office (11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite #204) and through Zoom.

I. Open Meeting

A. Roll Call

[00:01:01](#) Sarah Blechta called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. *All board members present.*

B. Public Comment

[00:02:11](#) Daniel Bierschwale reminded everyone of the TIGER Grant meetings.

C. Consent Agenda: *Action*

a. Approval of Minutes: March 8th, 2023

[00:02:54](#) **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda: Kevin Germain

Second: Steve Johnson

[00:03:05](#) Steve Johnson discussed finances and creating an investment policy.

[00:04:20](#) **Vote:** Motion Passed Unanimously

D. Regular Agenda

1. Old Business

a. Committee Reports: *Action*

Application Revision: *no updates currently*

Elevate Big Sky: *no updates currently*

County Commission


[00:04:47](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed the upcoming joint county commission meeting on May 3.

Incorporation Exploration

[00:05:22](#) Sarah Blechta explained how a working session that will include herself, Daniel Bierschwale, a facilitator, and the Local Governance Inc group to discuss concerns and how incorporation may or may not solve those issues, and its impact for the community.



Strategic Investments

[00:06:41](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed a roadmap for community Infrastructure Investment, Funding, and Voter

Representation. (View here:  [\[link\]](#))

[00:09:48](#) Daniel discussed 5 goals for the community including aligning public funds with infrastructure investments, property tax equity and access to government services, voter representation, philanthropic and other funding sources, and fact-based voter education.

[00:15:40](#) Daniel explained Targeted Economic Development Districts (TEDD) and how they may affect the community.

[00:18:29](#) Daniel reviewed a chart outlining strategic initiatives and efforts for Infrastructure Investment, Funding, and Voter Representation. (View here:  )

[00:29:46](#) Kevin Germain discussed the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan and future infrastructure needs and how these may be funded. Kevin stressed community collaboration and partnerships.

[00:31:40](#) Steve Johnson discussed Capital Improvement Plans for both Gallatin and Madison County.

[00:32:10](#) Ciara Wolfe discussed Kim Beatty's legal memo and encouraged everyone to take the time to read it and learn about these important community topics. Ciara explained the need for fact-based information and focus on steps one at a time in the correct order.

[00:38:11](#) **Motion:** to move the outlined roadmap forward with the community: Ciara Wolfe

[00:39:19](#) Ciara Wolfe asked about next steps and Daniel Bierschwale outlined incorporation exploration, forming a wellness district coalition, (Ciara Wolfe suggested the current local behavioral health coalition) and continued focus on fact-based voter education and engaging the community to register and vote.

[00:41:28](#) Sarah Blechta suggested creating subcommittees for items on the roadmap and including in committee updates.

[00:43:37](#) Daniel Bierschwale outlined steps for a districts and items on the roadmap. Sarah Blechta explained term of the Resort Tax and voters can extend/renew Resort Tax.

[00:48:14](#) **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

[00:48:27](#) Sarah Blechta requested that anyone interested in joining a coalition to please reach out. Sarah also discussed how the last BSRAD Board election was unopposed.

2. New Business

a. FY24 Application Update: *Discussion*

[00:49:33](#) Daniel Bierschwale gave an overview of FY24 Applications, project applications total \$11,044,535 and represent 52 projects from 20 sponsoring organizations. Board members will begin reviewing applications.

[00:52:43](#) Application Review Meetings will be held June 5th, 6th, and 8th at 5:30 pm at BASE.

[00:54:17](#) Board members discussed how Resort Tax offsets property taxes by funding local government districts.

b. Draft Operating Budget: *Discussion*

[00:57:19](#) Daniel Bierschwale reviewed the Operating Budget draft and discussed inflation and professional fees. The budget will be approved at the May 3rd meeting.

[01:00:31](#) Steve Johnson discussed possible investment income helping to offset operating costs and encouraged the board to investigate investment opportunities.

[01:02:03](#) Kevin Germain discussed 20% increase and professional fees.

[01:02:52](#) Ciara Wolfe noted that BSRAD shares the budget openly and posts it publicly for transparency.

c. 2023 Business Registration Data: Discussion

[01:04:21](#) Daniel Bierschwale reviewed the 2023 Business Registration data. Board members discussed.

d. Canyon Pipeline Feasibility Request: Action

[01:08:18](#) Daniel Bierschwale and Kim Beatty explained and reviewed 1% for Infrastructure and Canyon Pipeline Feasibility Request and how they are connected.

[01:13:26](#) Board members discussed and asked legal questions. Kim Beatty explained 1% vs 3% funds and how they can be allocated.

[01:26:19](#) Mace Mangold discussed feasibility studies and scheduling.

[01:38:10](#) **Motion:** to approve request of \$380,000 for feasibility study out of the 3%: Ciara Wolfe

Second: Grace Young

e. Collective Retreats Letter of Recognition Request: Action

[01:39:51](#) Daniel Bierschwale explained Collective Retreats requested a letter of recognition and as a policy the District only writes letters of support for projects with direct public benefit. *No one was available from Collective Retreats to answer questions.*

[01:41:50](#) Board members discussed and did not believe this project qualified under the policy for letter of support.

[01:42:55](#) Motion: to decline letter of support/recognition as it does not qualify under District policy: Ciara Wolfe

[01:43:30](#) Vote: Motion Passed Unanimously

f. Gallatin Valley Snowmobile Association Update: Discussion

[01:43:42](#) Daniel with Gallatin Valley Snowmobile Association discussed operations and gave updates. As of 4/15 Buck Creek Trail has had 31,574 snowmobile users. Daniel discussed need for a dedicated grooming machine and partnerships with Big Sky Search and Rescue and the Corral where the grooming machine will be stored.

[01:47:44](#) Sarah Blechta discussed application process.

[01:48:58](#) Daniel discussed work with legislature and taxes on rentals staying within the District.

[01:49:54](#) The Board shared their appreciation of collaboration and dedication for finding alternative funding sources.

g. Montana Land Reliance Update: Discussion

[01:50:41](#) Jordan Vana from Montana Land Reliance shared updates.

h. Belonging in Big Sky Update: Discussion

[01:52:23](#) Belonging in Big Sky Presentation was shared. View here:  [View here](#) 

E. Public Comment

[02:03:11](#) Motion: to Adjourn

II. Closed Meeting

Discussion of confidential business information and Resort Tax compliance of various businesses under review.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Johnson

[Steven Johnson \(May 31, 2023 17:43 MDT\)](#)

Steve Johnson, Secretary & Treasurer

BSRAD BOARD & STAFF: Sarah Blechta, Chair | Ciara Wolfe, Vice Chair | Steve Johnson, Secretary & Treasurer | Kevin Germain, Director | Grace Young, Director | Daniel Bierschwale, Executive Director | Kristin Drain, Finance & Compliance Manager | Jenny Muscat, Deputy Director | Tammy Estensen, Communications & Community Engagement Manager | Sara Huger, Office Manager

** All Board Meetings are recorded and live streamed. Please visit ResortTax.org for more information.*







04.19.2023 Meeting Minutes - to be signed

Final Audit Report

2023-05-31

Created:	2023-05-31
By:	Sara Huger (sara@resorttax.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAflh3U5-9XSoYLwxr4k-oUZ-pZfNPyhAX

"04.19.2023 Meeting Minutes - to be signed" History

-  Document created by Sara Huger (sara@resorttax.org)
2023-05-31 - 4:15:19 PM GMT- IP address: 76.75.11.75
-  Document emailed to steve@resorttax.org for signature
2023-05-31 - 4:16:18 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by steve@resorttax.org
2023-05-31 - 4:49:09 PM GMT- IP address: 70.33.15.181
-  Signer steve@resorttax.org entered name at signing as Steven Johnson
2023-05-31 - 11:43:32 PM GMT- IP address: 70.33.15.181
-  Document e-signed by Steven Johnson (steve@resorttax.org)
Signature Date: 2023-05-31 - 11:43:34 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 70.33.15.181
-  Agreement completed.
2023-05-31 - 11:43:34 PM GMT