



Board Meeting Minutes

January 10th, 2024 | 9:00am

Big Sky Resort Area District
11 Lone Peak Drive #204
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January's Board meeting was held on Wednesday, January 10th at 9:00am at the Resort Tax office (11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite #204) and through Zoom.

I. Open Meeting

A. Roll Call

[00:03:06](#) Sarah Blechta called the meeting to order at 9:00am. All board members present.

B. Public Comment

[00:03:50](#) Tammy Estensen reminded everyone the special candidate filing period is now open.

[00:04:39](#) Daniel Bierschwale welcomed and introduced Jackie Haines, Director of Economic & Strategic Development.

[00:05:27](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed Wellness District effort and Madison County Commission hearing.

[00:09:54](#) Sarah Blechta reviewed public comment from Grow Wild. (View here: [\[PDF\]](#))

C. Consent Agenda: *Action*

a. Approval of Minutes: November 8th, 2023

b. Finance Report: October & November 2023

[00:10:21](#) **Motion**: to approve Consent Agenda: Kevin Germain

Second: Steve Johnson

[00:10:39](#) **Vote**: Motion Passed Unanimously

D. Regular Agenda

1. Old Business

a. Reserve Strategy: *Action*

[00:11:20](#) Daniel Bierschwale reviewed the Reserve Strategy. (View here: [\[PDF\]](#))



[00:14:03](#) **Motion:** to accept Reserve Strategy as presented: Kevin Germain

Second: Grace Young

[00:14:09](#) Board members discussed emergency, operation, and capital reserve funds.

[00:17:04](#) **Vote:** Motion Passed Unanimously

b. Resolution 2023-02R—FY25 Allocations: Action

[00:17:17](#) Daniel Bierschwale explained purpose of work sessions and allocation process outlined in Resolution 2023-02R. (View here:  )

[00:20:03](#) Jenny Muscat reviewed timeline and Resolution exhibits.

[00:21:11](#) Sarah Blechta explained challenges and intent of a working session for allocations. Daniel Bierschwale explained review process and eligibility requirements.

[00:23:42](#) Jenny specified that the dollar amounts in exhibit B are strictly examples and not the actual dollar amounts. Jenny and Daniel discussed scoring criteria in exhibit D.

[00:25:33](#) Jackie Haines explained metrics and data related to growth rate. Board members discussed.

[00:29:03](#) **Motion:** to approve Resolution 2023-02R as presented: Kevin Germain

Second: Steve Johnson

[00:29:11](#) Kevin Germain discussed strategic planning and budget creation. Ciara Wolfe asked, and staff explained potential surplus budget and restricted funds.

[00:32:14](#) Whitney Montgomery, Big Sky Community Organization, shared public comment in support of Resolution. Whitney asked and Board Members discussed project request increases.

[00:33:57](#) David OConnor, Big Sky Community Housing Trust, shared public comment in support of Resolution and allocation process.

[00:35:11](#) John Zirkle, Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, asked and Daniel Bierschwale explained example of public funds.

[00:36:52](#) **Vote: Motion Passed Unanimously**

c. Canyon Sewer District Feasibility: Action

[00:37:14](#) Daniel Bierschwale explained the 1% for Infrastructure projects and pipeline feasibility requirements.

[00:39:21](#) Mace Mangold presented Gallatin Canyon Corridor Central Sewer project updates and board members discussed.

[00:55:35](#) Mace reviewed various feasibility items. Board members discussed and asked questions.

[01:00:41](#) Daniel explained potential to pay off WRRF plant and intent to not leave a gap in the 1% and changing the tax rate.

[01:02:58](#) **Motion:** extend current Canyon Sewer District contract to allow for feasibility study June 30th: Grace Young

Second: Kevin Germain

[01:04:00](#) **Vote: Motion Passed Unanimously**

d. Library Update: Discussion

[01:05:25](#) The Big Sky Community Library shared updates and board members asked questions related to a possible Library District.

e. Good Deeds Update: Discussion

[01:10:46](#) David O'Connor, Big Sky Community Housing Trust, shared Good Deeds project updates and challenges.

[01:17:19](#) David requested consideration to adjust contract for Good Deeds. Board members discussed.

[01:28:37](#) Contact amendment will be added to February meeting agenda.

f. CCBS/Our Big Sky Update: Discussion

[01:29:22](#) Whitney Montgomery presented updated Coordinating Council of Big Sky (CCBS) community strategies. CCBS meetings will be held quarterly.

2. New Business

a. Resolution 2024-01R—2024 Board Election: Action

[01:41:03](#) **Motion:** to approve Resolution 2024-01R as presented: Ciara Wolfe

Second: Grace Young

[01:41:39](#) **Vote: Motion Passed Unanimously**

b. FY25 SMART Baseline Community Metrics: Discussion

[01:41:49](#) Daniel Bierschwale gave an overview of FY25 SMART Baseline Community Metrics and measurable results.

[01:43:02](#) Jackie Haines explained process in creating goals and metrics with applicants and the community, and how it relates to FY25 project application requests. Board members discussed and shared feedback.

c. US191/MT64 Intersection: Discussion

[01:50:43](#) Daniel Bierschwale discussed the corridor study and optimization report.

[01:54:53](#) Daniel and Kevin Germain discussed traffic light upgrades and long-term traffic solutions.

[01:59:13](#) Daniel explained preferred solutions and opportunities.

[02:04:43](#) Brad Niva, Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and Visit Big Sky, discussed opportunities for entryway including bathrooms, visitor center, and other public benefits.

[02:05:39](#) Daniel Bierschwale and Board Members discussed multiple possible opportunities for community benefit at location. Daniel will discuss appraisal at a future meeting when the appraisal is received.

[02:13:43](#) Brad Niva, Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and Visit Big Sky, shared public comment regarding community challenges, needs, and opportunities.

[02:16:00](#) Ashley Wilson, Big Sky Community Organization, shared public comment regarding trails and pedestrian paths.

d. BSCO Contract Amendment: Action

[02:18:21](#) Whitney Montgomery, Big Sky Community Organization (BSCO), explained budget surplus and community park needs.

[02:19:31](#) **Motion:** to approve BSCO Contract Amendment as presented: Kevin Germain

Second: Grace Young

[02:24:18](#) **Vote: Motion Passed Unanimously**

E. Public Comment

[02:24:39](#) Mariel Butan shared public comments related to 'Our Big Sky' and SMART Baseline Community Metrics.

[02:25:51](#) Greg Megaard, Big Sky Fire Department, shared updates related to the Fire Training Facility and clarified they will not be requesting any capital projects for Resort Tax in 2024.

[02:29:57](#) Motion to Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,


Steve Johnson (Feb 15, 2024 14:41 MST)

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 | Jackie Haines, Director of Economic & Strategic Development | Sara Huger-Carroll, Office Manager

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

01.10.2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-02-15

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| Created: | 2024-02-14 |
| By: | Sara Huger (sara@resorttax.org) |
| Status: | Signed |
| Transaction ID: | CBJCHBCAABAA_qGnTO0hg3srHQh7cFFBLZG5ON-x1Zqo |

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-  Document created by Sara Huger (sara@resorttax.org)
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