

**LODGERS' TAX ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BUSINESS MEETING OF FEBUARY 22, 2021**

**Via Zoom
500 West National Ave.
Las Vegas, NM 87701**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hugh Ley via Zoom at 3:01 p.m. and roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Persons in attendance:

**Hugh Ley, Chairman
Bart Ellison, Member
Kimberly Allen, Member
Diane Moore, Member
Melinda Gonzales, Interim County Manager
Robert Archuleta, Planning & Zoning Division Supervisor
Helen Vigil**

For the record: Paul Aragon, Advisory Board Member was absent.

Motion was made by Diane Moore with a second by Bart Ellison to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried. Robert advised the Board to let the record reflect that the meeting was posted as per the 10 day advance notice to the public and agenda within 72 hours.

Minutes of the November 13, 2020 and January 9, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Board Members did not receive the January 9, 2021 minutes. Motion was made by Diane Moore with a second by Bart Ellison to approve minutes of November 13, 2020 and table minutes of January 9, 2021. All in favor. Motion carried.

Interim County Manager, Melinda Gonzales presented the Lodgers' Tax Financial Report. Discussed reduced amount and mid-year projected budget.

Advisory Board discussed revenues and questioned if Pendaries, KOA and Blame Her Ranch are paying lodgers tax and following state guidelines. Discussed the certification through Tourism, Covid safety awareness, Air BNB State Agreement. Ms. Melinda Gonzales will work on making contact with Air BNB. Discussion was held how the revenue was collected via the State and the County needed to monitor those taxes toward revenue. No further action was taken; this item was for informational purposes only.

The next item on the agenda that was discussed and presented by the Chair Hugh Ley was business item number 1, discussion regarding Invitation for Competitive Sealed Proposals for the Lodgers Tax Request for Proposals, December 2020 – which was an informational item.

RFP: Robert Archuleta, Planning & Zoning Division Supervisor, informs Advisory Board that only one proposal by the Pecos Business Association was received. RFP was published in the Daily Optic with a deadline of December 28, 2021. Was contacted by one out-of-state business and one from Santa Fe and Las Vegas showing interest but had missed a critical deadline.

Advisory Board expressed concern that new form may be too difficult for businesses who may want to apply. Need to make it easier for local businesses.

Robert advised that he prepared and RFP based on the NM Procurement Code, New Mexico Administrative Code, and State Purchasing Act. He advised that there was only one entity that applied and that was the Pecos Business Association.

He advised he received inquiries from the LV Chamber of Commerce, Sunny 505 from Santa Fe and Bandwagon from Louisiana. Discussion was held that these three entities failed to meet a critical deadline in the RFP where the entities failed to submit a response to the distribution list.

Robert advised that by not submitting the required documentation that they were acknowledging a rejection of the RFP. Further discussion was held in the event that one entity had questions, that this list would allow the County to respond to all entities and not favor one entity over the other.

Mr. Robert Archuleta states that RFP can be republished if the Advisory Board wishes. Ms. Melinda Gonzales states that RFP is required by law and that process needs to be followed. Ms. Gonzales stated we can potentially change the scope of work for a new RFP but that we did not need a new RFP. Melinda advised that she did not think the RFP was hard but it was different but doable.

Susie Syitee, a guest in attendance states that RFP was too hard. Due to illness she was unable to submit RFP but said she would have figured it out. Ms. Syitee discussed tourism.

Chairman Hugh Ley states that Board needs to set direction with basis with the County, State and the Federal Government. Forest Service is the largest. Possibilities to promote tourism include tracking, mountain climbing, biking and hiking and other areas.

Chairman Hugh Ley calls for approval of Bid Award. Motion was made by Bart Ellison with a second by Diane Moore to approve a two (2) year contract to the Pecos Business Association. Roll Call. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Diane Moore with a second by Bart Ellison to place the Pecos Business Association on the agenda for the March 9, 2021 San Miguel County Commission Meeting. Roll Call. All in favor. Motion carried.

Diane Moore makes motion to adjourn. Chairman Hugh Ley seconds that motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:32 P.M.

APPROVED FOR SUFFICIENCY

Hugh Ley, Advisory Board Chairman

Date

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