

**Fallon Convention & Tourism Authority
Meeting Minutes April 30, 2013**

Present: Chairwoman Rachel Dahl, Councilman Bob Erickson, Board member Pranav Morar, Board member Scott Tate, Executive Director Rick Gray.
Absent: Councilman James Richardson, City Clerk Gary Cordes.

Chairwoman Dahl called the meeting to order and certified the posting requirements have been met. Gray said they have.

Chairwoman Dahl asked the board if they reviewed the minutes from the meeting on March 19, 2013. Board member Tate motioned to approve the minutes. Board member Morar seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next item on the agenda is for public comments. There were none.

Chairwoman Dahl said next is agenda item number four consideration and possible approval of five grant applications and said if no one opposes she would like to move agenda item 4.5 Cowboy Fast Draw Assoc. to the top of the list because Cal has to get to another meeting. None opposed. Chairwoman Dahl asked Gray to start off. Gray said before the board are quality grants that fulfill the tourism mission which is to fill motel rooms with events that fit in with the community and add awareness of Fallon through their marketing efforts. Gray said a representative from each group is present to answer questions about their grant requests.

Gray told the board Cal Elrich is present to answer questions about his grant for the Cowboy Fast Draw World Championships held in Fallon again this year. Cal told the board this is the sixth year the event is being held in Fallon and they are up to over two hundred shooters and 3,300 members including six new clubs since its first year in Fallon. Cal told the board his goal is to have over four hundred registered shooters plus other participants at the event. He said two years ago they brought in vendors and audience displays and they make it more interesting for spectators. Cal said he counted over two thousand people come through the event last year. Cal described the Dutch oven competition and civil war reenactment they were adding this year and said he thought they could have over three hundred participants with the two additional events. He said the Outdoor Channel will be covering the event again this year and described the national coverage Fallon will receive from it. Board member Tate asked what type of vendors they have. Cal said they have food vendors, artists, clothing vendors and event supply vendors. Councilman Erickson asked if they had any coverage from the Reno TV stations last year. Cal said they were mentioned on a few and Channel 2 came out and shot some footage. Board member Morar asked how participants liked Fallon. Cal said they all really like Fallon. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any more questions or comments from the board, there were none. Board member Morar motioned to approve \$14,000 to the Cowboy Fast Draw Association. Councilman Erickson seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next item on the agenda is a grant application from the Fallon Trap Club and asked Gray to start off. Gray said before the board is a grant application and evaluation from Fallon Trap Club along with his recommendation. Gray said Pat Whitten is present to answer questions about their application. Pat told the board the club is still doing well and their state shoot will be hosted here May 18-19, 2013. She said they also have a multiplex series that has become very popular and has a good attendance. Pat said they continue to sponsor the youth trap shooting program and it also has become very popular and filled up the first week of sign-ups. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any comment or questions from the board, there were none. Board member Tate motioned to approve a grant for \$4,000 to the Fallon Trap Club. Board member Morar seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next agenda item is a grant application from the Oasis Stampede & Country Fair. Gray said before the board is a grant application and evaluation along with his recommendation. He said Sue Frey and Shannon Ernst are present to answer questions. Sue Frey said they changed the name of the event this year to the Churchill Country Fair and Ranch Rodeo. Shannon told the board this year they will be adding quite a few things and the fair continues to grow over the last twelve years. She said this year they are adding the battle born civil war reenactment, the Dutch oven contest, a barrel race, the ranch hand rodeo with bull and bronc riding along with a beer and wine tasting each evening. Shannon said the group has a new website which is churchillcountryfair.com. Sue told the board she is working with the civil war reenactment group to raise donations and also host a dance on Saturday. She said the Chamber of Commerce is helping them arrange for the band. Board member Tate asked how the ranch hand rodeo works. Shannon said it's a sanctioned event and takes place in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and California and this weekend is important to them. Sue said she is working with the Nevada Sesquicentennial group to have their event included with their scheduled events. Gray said he is working with a group to have some of his events included and he can help Sue get her event added as well. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any questions or comments from the board, there were none. Councilman Erickson motioned to approve \$5,000 to the Churchill Country Fair and Ranch Rodeo. Board member Morar seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next agenda item is a grant application from the Fallon High School Rodeo Club. Gray said before the board is a grant application and evaluation along with his recommendation. He said Jeff Goings and Monyca Jensen are present to answer questions about their event. Jeff told the board he has been on the committee in the past and has recently become active again. He said they are hosting the Nevada State High School Rodeo with approximately 130 participants. Jeff said this year's rodeo starts on Thursday because they are bringing back the cutting events and it will extend the rodeo an extra day. Board member Tate asked if this was the second or third year having the state rodeo in Fallon. Jeff said it is the second and it will not be back for a while because it rotates throughout the state. Board member Tate asked where they were being held next year. Jeff said it isn't decided until August. Board member Morar asked if the Jr. High and High School rodeos are being held separately this year. Jeff said they usually are but will be combined starting next year. Chairwoman Dahl

asked if there were any questions or comments from the board. Gray said he wanted to remind the board the discussion last year for last year's rodeo focused on hosting it for two years. Councilman Erickson motioned to approve \$10,000 to the Fallon High School Rodeo club. Board member Tate seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next agenda item is a grant application for Spring Wings. Gray said before the board is a grant application and evaluation along with his recommendation. Gray said Mike Goddard and Susan Sawyer are present to answer questions about their event. Mike told the board this is the 16th year for the festival and described how it has changed over time. He said they have been at the Fairgrounds for the last two years and it's working out well for them. Mike described the third graders program at the park that Susan is organizing this year. Board member Tate asked if all third grade classes are included. Mike said they are. Mike told the board he is working with Rick Gray to promote birding in Nevada. Mike said the Reno Gazette is doing a new series called a bird a month and they will be writing about Spring Wings. Gray said he has been trying to sponsor the page but is having trouble getting the RGJ to get the ad in. Gray said he is hosting a writer's FAM along with the Abbi Agency to bring writers to Spring Wings and show them the resources available all year long. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any questions or comments from the board, there were none. Board member Morar motioned to approve \$2,500 to the Spring Wings Bird Festival. Board member Tate seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next agenda item is the fiscal year 2014 budget. Board member Tate confirmed no changes were made to the budget since the last meeting. Gray said no changes have been made. Councilman Erickson confirmed the capital needs are the coffee maker and dish washer. Gray said they are. Board member Morar asked if tourism paid for the Abbi Agency fees. Gray said the Abbi Agency is engaged through the City and also through a grant from the Nevada Commission on Tourism. Councilman Erickson asked Gray if he will be actively seeking tournaments with the new gym coming on line. Gray said yes and they are hosting their first basketball tournament there on May 3-4, 2013. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there any further comments or questions about the fiscal year 2014 budget, there were none. Councilman Erickson motioned to approve the budget for fiscal year 2014. Board member Morar seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Chairwoman Dahl said the next agenda item is Board & Staff reports and asked Gray to start off. Gray reviewed the upcoming meeting dates with the board and discussed the board and staff reports. He said the convention center room revenue is down for a few reasons, one being the Hendrix show cancelled this year and the state of the current economy. Gray said he thought room tax is tracking with projections. Gray said he is working to bring the Nevada State bowling tournament back in 2015. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any more comments or questions from the board or public comments. Councilman Erickson noted room tax numbers have been down six out of the last eight months and asked if it is a trend. Board member Morar said his business has been slow. Board member Tate said sometimes you have to be careful when you compare numbers year to year and be mindful of the commercial activities going on in

the area. He said his business has been a little slow but has been a little better the last few weeks. Chairwoman Dahl asked if there were any further questions or comments, there were none.

Chairwoman Dahl said with no public comments the meeting is adjourned.