



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Work Session on 4 Peaks Music Festival 2024 Outdoor Mass Gathering Permit

PROPOSAL:

The applicant requests approval of an Outdoor Mass Gathering permit to allow a multi-day music festival in June of 2024. The event includes overnight camping, parking, and food and drink for an estimated 2,000 people. The property is approximately 150 acres in size and developed with a single-family dwelling and multiple accessory structures. The surrounding area consists of small scale farm and residential uses.

Proposed location of the festival is at 21085 Knott Road. Staff notes that the festival received approval from 2016 through 2019 at the same location with similar proposals, and before 2016 at a property near Tumalo. Set up is scheduled to begin June 15, 2024 and tear down will be fully completed by June 24, 2024. The event will take place June 20, 2024 through June 23, 2024. At this time the proposal has been approved by the Environmental Health Division, Bend Fire Department, County Health Department, and the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office.

The subject property has been divided into specific areas for the music festival. The main activity area is on the central portion of the subject property, which contains the stages, vendors, restrooms, water, first aid, trash and recycling collection, and basic operational aspects of the festival. The entrance to the festival is located on the northeast corner which includes the general admission vehicle lanes, ticket will call, day-use parking, and an area for authorized personnel. Other areas surrounding the main event to the south and southeast are designated as car and RV camping. The design layout includes separate vehicle and pedestrian access aisles and an emergency access road.

The applicant has addressed in their proposal the requirements involving insurance, sanitary facilities, water supply, fire protection, medical services, public safety and enforcement, parking facilities, alcohol and dangerous drugs, and hours of operation.

A public hearing for this application is scheduled for this Wednesday April 5th. While DCC 8.16.180 only requires a 10 day notice to other County Departments, Notice of Public Hearing was sent to County Departments and surrounding property owners on March 17, 2024 and published in the Bulletin on March 19, 2024. At this time, staff has not received any comments regarding the proposed application.

OUTDOOR MASS GATHERING REQUIREMENTS/CRITERIA:

Deschutes County Code (DCC) Chapter 8.16 provides approval criteria for an Outdoor Mass Gathering permit. The applicant has satisfied the requirements addressed in Section 8.16.160, including obtaining signatures on the application form from the following agencies:

- Bend Fire Department
- Deschutes County Health Department
- Deschutes County Environmental Health Division
- Deschutes County Sheriff

Staff believes the proposed outdoor mass gathering permit request can comply with the applicable standards and criteria outlined in Chapter 8.16 below if conditions of approval are met. Conditions will be noted in the Staff Report for the public hearing.

The applicant is requesting a waiver from the requirement to maintain an ambulance on-site during the festival. However, no waiver is sought for the first aid station and the applicant indicates it will comply with County Code. The applicant has provided a Medical Service Plan, which includes the use of Steven Foster Wexler LAC, an event medical service. The Board may waive permit requirements, in this case ambulance service, upon showing good cause by the event organizer (see DCC 8.16.150(B)). Furthermore, if the Board determines no County law enforcement or other services are necessary and no significant public health, safety, or welfare issues are involved, the Board may waive that requirement as well. The Board waived the permit requirement for on-site ambulance service for the last six outdoor mass gathering permits for this festival when it was at the Tumalo and Bend location. For reference, the closest fire station, Bend Fire Station #303, located at 61080 Country Club Drive, is approximately two (2) miles from the event site.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None

ATTENDANCE:

Rachel Vickers, Associate Planner