

Present were Chairman Patrick Collins, Committee Members Doug Bennett, Luke Swanson, Mike Kay (via phone) and Drex Bailey. Councilor Barron, EOTEC General Manager Al Davis, Operations Manager Brian Rust, City Manager Byron Smith, and City Staff Holly Lambert were also in attendance.

Committee member Weston Putman was excused, and member Jennifer Roberts absent.

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

February 8th, 2024, Minutes

Luke moved and Drex seconded to approve the February 8th, 2024, EOTEC Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

No meeting was scheduled for April 2024. The meeting scheduled for March 21st, 2024, was cancelled.

Barns Expansion

Byron reported most of the steel is in place in the swine barn and the work has begun on the beef barn. Both barns are on target to be completed prior to the 2024 Umatilla County Fair.

Field Expansion- HEROS

Luke reported the first phase of lighting is complete and the electrical service panel is almost fully built. The HEROS group received bids for the storage building drawings.

Luke stated the first lacrosse tournament recently held on the new fields went well, along with lessons learned for improvement. It was a successful event for vendors who were able to set up on the rock/gravel pad originally built for the storage building. The HEROS group will work with EOTEC and Parks & Recreation to choose a new spot to place the storage building. Plans are being made for many uses of the new fields.

Operations Update

Brian stated the grounds were fertilized on March 27th, along with all grass, minus the bioswales and the east lot, sprayed for weeds in late March. Watering with ditch water began mid-April. The grounds experienced a major water main leak on April 19th during the High School Rodeo. EOTEC was able to get through the weekend and thanked the Hermiston Water Department for coordinating with contractors on a speedy leak repair.

Brian shared EOTEC received an operations list from the UCF for items to complete prior to the fair.

Brian reported recent indoor events including soccer, pickleball, Parks and Rec events, Booster's events, the Farm City Ag & Home Expo, a crab feed, quincenera's, and multiple business meetings. Outdoor events held include roping's, barrel races, steer wrestling clinic, high school, and college rodeos, two outdoor concerts, motorcycle training, the lacrosse tournament, league lacrosse weekend games, and a high school lacrosse game.

Upcoming events include indoor pickleball until June 12th, a second lacrosse tournament, Parks & Rec youth soccer, Cinco de Mayo, Rock and Gem show, celebration of life, barrel races, motorcycle trainings,

pride event, quincenera, livestock jackpot show, ranch horse clinic, bull riding, Jr rodeo, and an I Love My City event.

Roy complimented the EOTEC team for their work on the recent concert events.

Luke requested a status update on the request for water rights from the State of Oregon.

Byron stated the request is currently on pause, to be reinstated soon.

Pickleball Update

Byron shared the pickleball group's appreciation for the EOTEC Advisory committee's consideration to have courts at EOTEC. The group was able to find a more feasible location to build pickleball courts.

Other

Committee members noted the newly rebranded signage around EOTEC looks good.

Roy asked about having a financial report prepared for the committee.

Byron responded that a report can be prepared.

Next Meeting- July 11th, 2024, at 5:30PM

Chairman Collins adjourned the meeting at 6:12pm.