

## Board of Museums and History Board Meeting Transcript March 9, 2023

Robert Stoldal: 00:02 Will you start the recording? Thank you. Has this meeting been properly posted?

Myron Freedman:

00:12

Myron Freedman, for the--

Harry Ward: 00:13 Mr. Chair, for the record, Harry Ward, would you once again introduce the date of the

meeting since it's now being recorded?

Robert Stoldal: 00:21 I'd like to call to--

Harry Ward: 00:21 Thank you, sir.

Robert Stoldal: 00:22 --order the Nevada Board of Museums and History for this Thursday, March the 9th,

2023. The time is 8:05. And I'll ask for the recording to start, and then question on the

agenda number three, has this meeting been properly posted?

Myron Freedman:

00:39

Myron Freedman, for the record, yes, it has.

Robert Stoldal: 00:42 I'm hearing you in the background.

Sarah Cowie: 00:50 Myron, you might--

Robert Stoldal: 00:52 The meeting was properly posted?

Myron Freedman:

00:54

Yes.

Robert Stoldal: 00:54 Great, thank you. Please call the roll and determine if we have a quorum.

Deb Rudo: 01:01 [inaudible] calling roll. Roger Stoldal?

Robert Stoldal: 01:04 Present.

Deb Rudo: 01:06 Michelle Schmitter?

Michelle Schmitter:

01:08

Present.

Deb Rudo: 01:10 Sarah Cowie?

Sarah Cowie: 01:12 Here.

Deb Rudo: 01:14 Doris Dwyer?

Doris Dwyer: 01:16 Present.

Deb Rudo: 01:17 **Anthony Timmons?** 

**Anthony Timmons:** 

Here.

01:19

Deb Rudo: 01:20 Daniel Markoff? Robert Ostrovsky?

Robert Ostrovsky:

01:29

Here.

Deb Rudo: 01:31 Jan Petersen.

Jan Petersen: 01:32 Present.

Seth Shore. Court. Deb Rudo: 01:34

Courtney Mooney:

01:40

Here.

Deb Rudo: 01:43 Mercedes De la Garza.

Myron Freedman:

01:47

She's on her way.

Deb Rudo: 01:50 E'Sha Hoferer. We have a quorum.

Robert Stoldal: 02:01 All right. Thank you, And for those of us that are still on Zoom, we are trying to use a

> new piece of equipment that the board approved at the last meeting to where I can't remember the name, Myron, but it turns to whoever is speaking. The audio quality is

less than adequate. Do you have any control of this, Myron?

Myron Freedman:

02:30

02:35

[inaudible].

Unknown: 02:33 He just took off.

He just left, so is there--? Doris Dwyer: 02:33

Myron Freedman:

[inaudible]. It's just the microphone is not firing up on the emulator. So you need to

hear us better? Is that what you're saying, Bob?

Robert Stoldal: 02:43 You are just in the distant background. Strained to hear the board members. Courtney

and Sarah, are you experiencing the same audio distance?

Yes. Sarah Cowie: 03:10

Robert Stoldal: 03:12 Okay, Bob.

Myron Freedman:

Testing one, two, three, testing one, two, three. Is that better?

03:13

Robert Stoldal: 03:17 No.

Unknown: 03:24 Yeah, that's fine. I'm just going to look at it right now.

Myron Freedman:

The [inaudible] microphone is on this--

03:26

Unknown: 03:31 Try it now.

Myron Freedman:

03:32

Testing one, two, three, testing one, two, three.

Robert Stoldal: 03:36 We can hear you but it's like we're at the other end of the room. Where is the

microphone physically?

Unknown: 03:48 Right in the middle.

Robert Stoldal: 03:49 Maybe we just need to move that closer and get everybody squished together

physically.

Deb Rudo: 04:05 Testing, testing.

Robert Stoldal: 04:09 Yeah. And just for the sake of-- this is a board meeting, if we could get the board

members close together so they are clearly heard and seen. And then, if somebody needs to speak that they can move into that area. But let's get the board members together and then figure out a way where people that want to - either the public or staff members - who want to speak, that they have an opportunity to be heard clearly

as well. But let's get the board members together.

Unknown: 04:48 I'm testing on my side. Can you hear me?

[silence]

Deb Rudo: 05:04 [inaudible].

?: 05:05 Myron, Ron is downstairs. He'll be up in just a minute [inaudible].

?: 05:09 Okay.

?: 05:10 Try to keep the audio.

Myron Freedman: So do you guys [inaudible]?

05:11

?: 05:13 I understand. I'm a sports Christian, so--

?: 05:18 Oh. [inaudible].

?: 05:22 [crosstalk].

?: 05:43 Okay, board. [inaudible] I you guys to get nice and cozy.

Michelle Schmitter:

05:44

[crosstalk] Chair? I'm just thinking--

Anthony Timmons:

05:49

It's not sitting at the director's anymore. [laughter] You want to trade [inaudible] and

see [inaudible]?

Myron Freedman:

05:54

Sure. Okay, Bob. How's this? Testing, testing, testing. Not that, but not better?

Robert Stoldal: 06:03 It's better, but we've gone from a 0, on a scale of 1 to 10, to maybe about a 50. I

mean you're clear, but again I haven't seen the board members, and I think it's

incumbent especially we're recording this meeting on audio.

Myron Freedman:

06:24

Okay, so Mrs. Doris?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

[crosstalk].

06:28

Myron Freedman:

Say something, Doris.

06:29

Doris Dwyer: 06:30 Hi, Bob. Hi Bob, can you hear me?

Robert Stoldal: 06:35 I can hear you, but Courtney, and Robert, and Sarah, are you-- let me know when you

feel the audio is adequate.

Unknown: 06:47 Hi, Bob.

Myron Freedman:

06:51

Harry said, "Thumbs up." Okay. Here's Anthony.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

06:57

Testing one, two, three. Testing one, two, three.

Robert Stoldal: 07:03 Is that Anthony?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

07:04

Yes.

Doris Dwyer: 07:06 Should we talk to the--?

Anthony Timmons:

07:08

Talk to the robot.

Myron Freedman:

07:10

Talk to the robot.

Jan Petersen: 07:12 Bob, this is Jan. Can you hear me? Or see me? I don't even see where I am.

Myron Freedman:

07:19

Okay, we've got the tech here who's checking it out.

Robert Stoldal: 07:23 I think two things we're going to have to take into consideration, one is when I go to

the-- well, we can do it now. And that is the-- if you read the minutes, and we'll get to the approval of those, but if you read the minutes, you'll notice that there was still a lot of unidentified people. So if you could make sure that you're identifying yourself, we all know who everybody is. But for the record, we need to make sure that you clearly identify yourself. There were several motions that were made. And it's not

indicated, just as we don't know, or some words to that effect.

Robert Stoldal: 08:02 And then the Secondly, with this piece of equipment that we're now experimenting

with, it takes a moment to move over. So we're going to have to have a bit of a slower process, and the dialogue will be a little bit more formal, so to speak. So I think we are

going to move forward. If a board member or staff needs to have something repeated. So we make sure that we're clear. And then, we can talk about it later on,

maybe at the end of the meeting, during the public comment period of how we move forward with this meeting. Our last three meetings, we've had challenges with trying to do hybrid meetings, and when we're all on Zoom, it's pretty straightforward. But when we try and do hybrid, we have challenges, as does the rest of the world with

hybrid, so we're not unique in that area.

Robert Stoldal: 09:07 So let me move on then to-- we've called the roll. We're now on item agenda five,

which is meeting logistics, and I think we are going to settle in with the logistics that we have. Please, board members, if you're not clear on what somebody said, go ahead and speak, because the recording will be hearing what you're hearing, as well, so it needs to be clear. And there's several key decisions that need to be made today,

so I want to make sure that we're very clear. Item six, public comment

announcements. Public comment is welcome by the board. There are three periods of public comment during the meeting of the Nevada Board of Museums and History.

The first is at the beginning of the meeting, and the third one is at the end of the meeting, which will be where public comment will be allowed on the very first one.

Robert Stoldal: 10:07

Let's make sure we understand that public comment will be allowed now and before the board votes on any item-- before it takes any item. The first public comment period deals with those things that are action items on the agenda. So again, there are three points of public comment: one at the beginning, one before every action item, and then the third public comment period is generally reserved for those things that the board has, or the museum. There's some questions from the public regarding the museums in general. Public comment may be limited to three minutes at the discretion of the Chair. Speakers urged to avoid repetition. Public comment options may include, without limitation, written public comments submitted to the public body via mail or email. Minutes are audio and transcribed as part of the public record. Speakers, including board members, must identify themselves before speaking.

Robert Stoldal: 11:07

At this point, is there anybody that is either online or in person from the public that would like to make a comment regarding any action item on the agenda? Herein seeing none, has any board member received any public comment, either by email or telephone or other forms of communication? For the record, at 2:33 this morning, I received an email, and I forwarded that to Myron with the request that he forward that to the rest of the board. Myron, did you get that email?

Myron Freedman:

12:00

Yes, sir. Myron Freedman, for the record.

And was that forwarded to each of the board members?

Myron Freedman:

Robert Stoldal: 12:04

12:07

It was.

Jan Petersen: 12:08 We did receive it.

Michelle Schmitter:

12:14

Yes.

Robert Stoldal: 12:17 Okay. And so this is part of public record, from the attorney general. Should this be

read into the record or is this suffice to that it's included in the record?

Harry Ward: 12:36 For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, it suffices that it's been noted that you received it, that all the board members have read it. It would be unfair to, let's say, maybe someone that was speaking if you read every written one, and let's

say it exceeded the three minutes. But under the open meeting law, it is perfectly fine just to note that you have received the email as public record and it will be noted and

that all the board members have read it.

Robert Stoldal: 13:06 Thank you. I will say this though, that the questions are pertinent questions, and as

we get into that agenda item I think we should-- will be able to respond to these

questions in the email.

Harry Ward: 13:24 Once again, Harry Ward Deputy Attorney General. Yes, Mr. Chair, especially since this

one is specific to an agenda item, I would say before the item is called up, when you ask for public comment, just remind the board that there was written public

comment on this agenda item.

Robert Stoldal: 13:39 Great. Thank you. Item agenda seven, public notification. Items on the public agenda

may be taken out of order, and the board may combine two or more agenda items for

consideration and action by the board. In addition, the board may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to any agenda item at a later time. Let's then move on to agenda eight, acceptance of the minutes. There are two sets. One on December 8th and 9th. That was our last full board meeting of the year. And then there's February the 9th, our membership committee meeting. Take item eight, the December 8th and 9th. There is a summary and a full board, a full transcript that is available online. Any questions or comments from the board regarding 8A? If not, we'd look for motion.

Mercedes De La Garza:

14:49

Mercedes for the record, move to approve meeting of notes, December 8th.

Robert Stoldal: 14:55 And 9th.

Mercedes De La Garza:

14:57

And 9th. I'm sorry. Yes.

Robert Stoldal: 15:00 All right. That was Mercedes for the record. Do we have a second?

Jan Petersen: 15:06 I'll second, Jan Petersen.

Robert Stoldal: 15:09 Thank you. Further comment from the board, general public? Hearing none, all those

in favor please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

15:19

Aye.

Michelle Schmitter:

15:20

Aye.

Robert Stoldal: 15:23 Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting with those online

and in person. Let's move on to agenda item number 8B. February the 9th, there was the membership committee meeting. Look for a motion or further discussion. General

public, if not look for a motion.

Mercedes De La Garza:

15:59

Mercedes for the record, moved to approve membership committee meeting notes

from February 9th.

Robert Stoldal: 16:07 And the second.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

16:09

Anthony Timmons for the record. I'll second the motion.

Robert Stoldal: 16:13 We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion of the motion by the board,

by the public? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye.

Anthony Timmons:

16:25

Aye.

?: 16:26 Aye.

?: 16:26 Aye.

?: 16:28 Aye.

Robert Stoldal: 16:29 Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously, with the Chair voting in favor of those

present and those online. Item number nine, review and confirm the date for the board meeting for the remainder of the calendar year 2023. Our first one is June 8th and 9th that would be Las Vegas. Our budget meeting next would be September the 14th in Ely and December the 8th and 9th in Reno at the Nevada Historical Society.

This is reviewing and simply confirming the dates. This is an action item. The action would be either change the dates or confirm the dates. Any discussion by the board?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

17:20

17:25

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record.

Robert Stoldal: 17:24

Yes please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

Can we please do a roll call on June 8th and June 9th? I'm kind of worried that we

may run into issues around finding a quorum for those two dates.

Robert Stoldal: 17:37

Anthony, I apologize, I didn't hear what you said.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

17:45

Is it possible to call a roll call for those two dates, June 8th and June 9th? I'm kind of

concerned that we may not have a quorum available for those two dates.

Myron Freedman:

17:58

You want to move it?

Robert Stoldal: 18:02

So you're concerned that we do not have a quorum for June 8th and 9th?

Anthony Timmons:

18:08

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. My concern is that we're relatively

close at this time.

Mercedes De La Garza:

18:16

Mr. Chairman, Mercedes De La Garza, for the record. I'm not able to attend on June

8th and 9th.

Robert Stoldal: 18:25 Well, let's then take a-- if staff who called the roll, if they could call the roll to

> determine who will be available on the 8th and 9th for a budget meeting, that's an important meeting. So if we could respond to Anthony's question and make sure that

we do have a quorum.

Deb Rudo: 18:55 [inaudible], calling role for June 8th and 9th attendance. Robert Stoldal.

Will be there. Robert Stoldal: 19:02

Deb Rudo: 19:04 Michelle Schmitter?

Michelle Schmitter:

19:06

Yes. I can attend.

Deb Rudo: 19:08 Sarah Cowie?

Sarah Cowie: 19:11 I'm about 75% sure I should be able to be there.

Deb Rudo: 19:17 Doris Dwyer?

Doris Dwyer: 19:19 I am recovering from surgery. If I can take it through Zoom then I could attend on

those days.

Deb Rudo: 19:30 Anthony Timmons?

**Anthony Timmons:** Anthony Timmons, for the record, most likely. I will be getting back from a vacation 19:32

trip on the day before and I might be a little jetlagged, but I just want to make sure

we're okay if we're going to do it.

Deb Rudo: 19:48 Daniel Markoff? Robert Ostrovsky?

Robert Ostrovsky:

19:56

Yes, I'm available those dates.

Deb Rudo: 19:59 Jan Petersen? Robert Ostrovsky:

20:01

Yes, I can attend.

Deb Rudo: 20:04

Seth Shore? Courtney Mooney?

Courtney Mooney:

20:10

I can attend.

Deb Rudo: 20:13

Mercedes De La Garza?

Mercedes De La Garza:

20:15

I will not be able to attend the June 7th through the 10th.

Deb Rudo: 20:21 E'Sha Hoferer? [inaudible]. I have eight that confirmed attendance most likely.

Robert Stoldal: 20:39 Since the camera was not on you, did you say we have enough-- we have a quorum

most likely?

Deb Rudo: 20:48 I will have eight in attendance most likely. Yes sir.

Myron Freedman:

20:54

Eight. Eight.

Deb Rudo: 20:55 Eight.

Robert Stoldal: 20:58 All right, well it-- Anthony, did that respond-- is that satisfactory as far as answering

your question?

Anthony Timmons:

21:07

Anthony Timmons, for the record, sure. That's fine. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal: 21:10 Okay.

Daphne DeLeon: 21:12 So Chair, Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Could you double-check your mic on your

end?

?: 21:16 [crosstalk] [on speaker?].

Daphne DeLeon: 21:18 Or speaker? Your speaker, make sure that it's turned up all the way. So maybe it'll

help you hear us here in Carson City.

?: 21:25 The speaker?

Robert Stoldal: 21:28 Well, what I've done now is I've switched over to the only people that I see a full

> screen of the speakers. So that helps just be able to match the audio with the lip movement. So I can hear and see a little bit better. But I will do it. We are at the item where we are looking at reviewing and confirming the dates for June the 8th and 9th in Las Vegas. Again in Ely in September, and Reno, on December the 8th. This is a potential action item to confirm. I don't think we need to take action. We can just leave it the way it stands. But that would be up to the board. How would the board like to proceed, unless you want to confirm it or just leave it the way it is and move

on?

Michelle Schmitter:

Let's leave it.

22:25

Myron Freedman:

That's fine with me.

22:26

Myron Freedman:

22:31

Someone go on record.

Michelle Schmitter:

22:32

Michell Schmitter for the record, we're going to leave it as is.

Robert Stoldal: 22:37

All right. Well, why don't we just make it formal? Just, say, somebody make a motion,

and then we can move on.

Deb Rudo: 22:43

I make a motion.

Michelle Schmitter:

22:44

Michelle Schmitter, for the record, I move to accept the dates presented for the

September 14th and December 7th and 8th meeting.

Mercedes De La Garza:

22:54

Mercedes De La Garza, for the record, second.

Robert Stoldal: 22:57 All right. We have a motion. We have a second. Any additional discussion? Hearing

none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

23:07

Aye.

Robert Stoldal: 23:13 Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. Let's

> move on to agenda item number 10, which is the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Rebecca Palmer, administrator. All these items are action items unless

otherwise noted. Rebecca, please.

Good morning, Chair and members of the board. This is Rebecca Palmer for the Rebecca Palmer: 23:42

> record. You have our board report but I did want to add a few additional items to it. We are pleased to announce that we have hired an architectural historian for our review and compliance program. We are facing what every Shippo in the nation is facing, which is a tidal wave of federally-funded projects coming from the Aura funding. So this will give us a full staff in the review and compliance program. Our executive budget is making its way through the legislative session. Our budget hearing

> is scheduled for March the 31st. We will have, at that point, a discussion of a significant increase in our federal appropriation from a little over 900,000 to 1.3 million per year. This comes from the fact that the National Park Service is now using 2020 census information, which does benefit the state. National Park Service is our grant funder. We get funds from Historic Preservation Fund, which is subsidized by offshore oil and gas leases. So whether that remains the source of revenue or not is a discussion in Congress at this point. That is all I have for the office at this juncture. I'd

be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

25:42

Mr. Chairman, for the record--

**Questions for Rebecca Palmer.** Robert Stoldal: 25:43

**Anthony Timmons:** 

Mr. Chairman. Anthony Timmons for the record.

25:46

Robert Stoldal: 25:49 Please go ahead.

Anthony Timmons:

25:50

Hi, Rebecca, I have a quick question for you. Are you seeing the same level of turn-in of reports for consideration for the state and national register or has that dropped

off?

Rebecca Palmer: 26:07

For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. There does appear to have been a lull in the requests for review of nominations. It's always been problematic on federallymanaged land in Nevada. It's why the state is less than competitive when it comes to the numbers of national register nominations because it's difficult to get the federal agencies to move on national register nominations. And with over 80% of the land managed by those agencies, it is doubly difficult to get them to make forward progress on those nominations. It's not going to be any easier in the immediate future with the ramp-up of renewable energy projects. So that is all always been problematic. As far as privately owned properties that has-- there does appear to have been a slowdown in that. I don't know what the reason for that might be, but yes, indeed, there has been a slight decrease in the numbers of requests.

Anthony Timmons:

27:27

Anthony Timmons--

Robert Stoldal: 27:28

Rebecca, I know that there has been-- the federal lands does not come through this commission, is that correct?

Rebecca Palmer: 27:40

For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. That's correct, unless there's multiple ownership issues such as occurred with Cave Rock.

Robert Stoldal: 27:52

Okay, but for example, the issue with Fallon Naval Base or the Victory US 40 Highway, Lincoln Highway. Those are in progress and the same with the Mount Charleston Area. Those would not come normally through this commission or this agency as that's federal land. Is there a way for individuals or this commission to at least be advised or up to speed as these nominations get closer? I mean, I received a request from the-- I'll just say the I-80 corridor people wanting to know what the status of that nomination is. What's the best way for individuals or even this commission to at least be in the loop to some degree of how the federal projects are moving forward?

Rebecca Palmer: 28:55

For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. Well, we have included-- and Christian is on as well. We haven't made an effort to include status update on the status of federal nominations in our board report. In fact, there are some there now. But if individuals wish to have any information that we can provide, they certainly are free to put in a public records request. For the most part, they-- unless it's privileged information, would be able to get whatever drafts or public records we have. Christian, did you want to add to that?

Christian Brown: 29:40

Yes. Hello, everyone. I will just add to whatever Rebecca said. I do my best to add the updates at the end of the board report. And unfortunately, sometimes, we don't hear anything from the federal agency. So our office is also not up to speed on the latest developments, and we may not have an idea if someone's working on it or not. So in some cases, you could ask us for an update, but I might not have new news for you. And the best person to ask might actually be the federal agency.

Robert Stoldal: 30:12

Right. Then, Kristen, I'm looking at that. And I guess, I'm just responding to no changes or updates since the previous staff report, which was no changes or updates since the previous staff report. So I understand the challenge that you're only presenting the information that you are able to have access to. All of those are important historic sites in the State of Nevada.

Christian Brown: 30:38

And I would like to add-- this is Christian Brown. I would like to add that of the two highway nominations, one of them does potentially include some privately owned land and there is the BLM is working out still whether they-- my understanding anyway, last I talked to them, which was a long time ago or last I talked to NDOT who is also working with the BLM. They were still trying to decide if they were able to get that owner support to include those adjacent privately-owned properties or not. So we don't yet know if that will be as-- one of those will be a strict federal agency nomination or if it will include something for this board to review. We have not heard any updates on that nomination in a long time.

Robert Stoldal: 31:22

And one last question. Well, actually, two. The El Rancho, how close are we to moving that forward?

Christian Brown: 31:30

That one is very close, and I expect it will be on your next agenda. We did some inhouse edits when the consultant was no longer able to finish the project. And then we were waiting for some information from the city and the City of Wells had some staff turnover. And we were getting some of that information kind of in piecemeal. And now I do believe that I have everything I need to finish the nomination. I need to go back through the files. As Rebecca mentioned, we've been short-staffed at our office and it's been all hands on deck for a while. But it is very close to being done and especially since this board has already reviewed that nomination, I don't expect it to be a difficult re-review and final confirmation for you. So let's get that on the next agenda.

Robert Stoldal: 32:22

Great, that's okay. Further questions from the board? Did I see a hand we're looking for? All right. Rebecca, anything else before we wrap up this part of the agenda?

Rebecca Palmer: 32:40

For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. I don't have any additional items.

Robert Stoldal: 32:46

For some reason I thought there was a report on 10A which is AB46?

Rebecca Palmer: 32:55

Yes, sir. This is Rebecca Palmer. I do have a report for that. AB46 is the only department-sponsored bill for my division in this legislative session. What it is is, broadly speaking, is a clean-up bill addressing the Nevada historical markers. In 1977 when the office was created, the markers were placed under the authority of the division at the time. But in 1977, the marker program was a little over 13 years old and so maintenance wasn't really part of the consideration. My office has never had the ability to maintain these markers. In fact, we've used funding from a variety of sources over the years to maintain the markers. But I don't have a construction staff. And these markers are 265-- or actually 68 construction projects located all over the state. So it's never been a very good fit.

Rebecca Palmer: 34:09

The amended bill will transfer that maintenance responsibility back to the original party, which was the Nevada Division of State Parks, from which we received the marker program. And so they do have construction capability, and they have remote parks, and they have the ability to visit and inspect the markers in a manner in which my staff has never been able to do. So this will correct historical oversight that was never really considered when it was transferred. In addition, it will correct—well, actually, address the evolution of my office. When the office was created in 1977, we did not have a professional historian, and so we had to rely on the Nevada Historical Society, which we were grateful for. But we now have a professional historian. And so we're just addressing the fact that the office has evolved since 1977 and removing the requirement to seek final approval from the historical society. We still have the provision of consulting and working collaboratively, but the final approval has never worked very well in my tenure. And so we're just removing that; what I would argue is a artifact of our original history. And that is the summary of AB46.

Robert Stoldal: 36:08 Questions from the board? Can you provide us with a link so we can review the actual

legislation? I'm sure there's a place to on the legislative website, but it'd be easier if

there was a link that you could send us.

Jan Petersen: 36:26 Bob.

Robert Stoldal: 36:27 Please.

Jan Petersen: 36:28 Jan Petersen for the record. I have a question for Rebecca then. So when will state

parks take over? And are they going to-- some of those are in horrible shape, in remote rural areas. And well, the Chinese one in Sparks, you can hardly read the lettering on it. So will they refurbish them, or you're not that far with the plan?

lettering on it. So will they refurbish them, or you're not that far with the plan?

Rebecca Palmer: 36:58 For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. The bill was heard in the assembly, Natural Resources Committee. It has not moved out, it's not yet scheduled for a work session.

So let's just say, hypothetically, if it made it all the way through-- again, it's not left its first house of origin. If it makes it all the way through and is either signed by the governor or what, that would be effective July 1, 2023. It's one of those that's effective in the beginning of the next fiscal year. State parks, if this moves forward

and gets signed by the governor, state parks would take the small amount of funding that we have in a grant from NDOT and used that to maintain some of the markers.

Rebecca Palmer: 38:05 In addition, there are other sources of funding that state parks can use to repair the markers, as well, that we do not have access to. The other little quirk here, which has

always made it difficult for my division, is that funding from the National Parks Service and our matched general fund cannot be used for the marker program. It's prohibited. So I have always struggled with how do I manage a marker program with no funding except a small enhancement from NDOT? So it's always been a challenge. It became even more of a challenge when our last contractor in 2019 walked away. And we've not been able to successfully secure a contractor since then, despite

numerous requests for proposal. So I'm hoping that this is a solution that is acceptable to the legislative body and is signed by the Governor. And if that is the

case, then it would be July 1st.

Jan Petersen: 39:22 For the record, thank you.

Robert Stoldal: 39:25 Rebecca, two questions. One is when's the last time we added a marker? And two, are you comfortable-- I know there was a period of time several years ago that-- these

markers are 30, 40 years old and the language is-- was, hopefully had been changed; the outdated language. Are you satisfied with the language on the signs both, I'm

using the term outdated, but also are factually correct?

Rebecca Palmer: 40:05 For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. During the sesquicentennial celebration, a little bit over a hundred-- I don't have the number in my head. 167, I think, markers

were replaced and the text they were replaced with was written by Ron James in consultation with the various parties. So that has been updated to reflect the most recent scholarship available. There are several problematic markers out there that we were unable to work with the various parties to get replaced in time to be part of that sesquicentennial celebration. So there's still a few out there. I have placed the language of all of the markers on our website, along with the Google map that shows

where the pins are, where the markers are.

Rebecca Palmer: 41:07 For those problematic ones, I have actually chosen to put the proposed text up rather than the actual text because the actual text is so problematic. But for the most part, with a few exceptions, the language is as up-to-date as possible. But there's

scholarship changes rapidly, and there's an example of Miller's, at the Miller's rest

stop where the date of the establishment of the community of Millers was one year off. I think it was-- our marker says 1918, or something like that. I'm doing this off the top of my head, so don't quote me on that. And it's actually, Alicia Barber, former member of the board, has been able to discover that date is actually one year off. So there's always new scholarship that occurs. As to the last marker that was installed, that was for the Nevada Mental Health Facility or the Nevada Insane Asylum, in Reno, and that was put up in 2019, I believe. So that was the last marker that was installed.

Robert Stoldal: 42:32

Great. Thank you. I mentioned that as, you on the internet there are—the markers are seen in dozens and dozens of places. People traveling, they just take their picture in front of the markers. And so these are not just something from the past that is—it is not used by—visitors and tourists, as well as local citizens still recognize these are important markers and they need to be factually correct. One year off, I think we'll fix that when we can. But some of them are a little, I just use the word, awkward. So Further questions?

Jan Petersen: 43:19

Yes, Bob Stoldal. [inaudible] [laughter] Bob, this is Jan Petersen. For Rebecca. The Fort Halleck one is entirely missing. And it's 42 downtown, Halleck Residence. It's been gone for years. So I don't know if it ever officially got reported to you.

Rebecca Palmer: 43:47

For the record-- oh, I'm sorry, Jan. For the record--

Robert Stoldal: 43:55

Go ahead, Rebecca.

Rebecca Palmer: 43:57

Okay. For the record, this is Rebecca Palmer. The Fort Halleck one has been reported as missing. I have our website and the various webpages as a way to communicate to the public when markers are missing. We have a number of missing markers. We have another one is Southern Nevada called Camels in the Desert, which has been missing for quite some time. They sometimes are hit by vehicles, sometimes they are stolen. There's a variety of reasons why they might not be present. This hopefully, if it's successful, will allow Nevada State Parks to work directly with NDOT to refurbish those that we can refurbish or manufacture those that we need to manufacture. So I'm hopeful that we've hit on a solution that is both collaborative and cost-effective. So it is one of the things I'm trying to clean up so that I don't leave this program the way I found it.

Robert Stoldal: 45:19

Thank you. Further questions, comments? And Myron, just as an FYI, the camera does not move with the speaker down there. It's fixed on the Director of the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. And Anthony and off to the left is Daphne so when a speaker-I thought the camera would move.

Unknown: 45:56

The camera's drawn to me, Chairman. [laughter]

Robert Stoldal: 46:01

Yeah, so you are directly in the center along with the-- we got a great picture of the door. But we don't see the board members.

Dan Markoff: 46:12

Mr. Chairman?

Robert Stoldal: 46:14

We have a visitor from Ely over there to the far right.

Dan Markoff: 46:20

Mr. Chairman?

Robert Stoldal: 46:21

1 Yes.

Dan Markoff: 46:22

This is Dan Markoff. I've finally been able to join.

Robert Stoldal: 46:26

Great, wonderful Diddy Dan. At least that's what it says on the screen.

Dan Markoff: 46:29 Yeah, I know, I'm using her laptop computer.

Robert Stoldal: 46:33 Okay.

?: 46:38 [inaudible] microphone [inaudible] cameras.

Robert Stoldal: 46:44 Yeah, it would be nice if we could move it to where I see somebody and then Doris

and then Jan-- oh there you-- nope, too far. Go the other way. Keep going. Keep going. Keep going a little more. And now we have four board members there. I think we could go a little bit more to get to [inaudible]. But you know it would be nice if we could get another-- if Anthony could move over there to the other side. Then we would have all the board members together and we'd be able to see them speak.

Robert Ostrovsky:

100%.

47:29

?: 47:35 Let's get Brenda up here [inaudible] the new [inaudible].

?: 47:38 Okay.

Robert Stoldal: 47:39 I mean, we all got our audio turned up all the way to 100 and we're still--

?: 47:46 [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal: 47:50 And then maybe it could be a spot for Brenda to come over, for a speaker to come

over.

?: 47:55 Coming up.

?: 47:57 [crosstalk].

Myron Freedman: Is this visible where I am?

47:58

Robert Stoldal: 48:00 Yeah. Yes. Well, I also see Daphne and Brenda in the background.

Myron Freedman:

Brenda's going to move up for the report.

48:06

?: 48:10 [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal: 48:14 Okay. While we're doing that, good morning, Brenda.

Brenda Scolari: 48:21 Good morning.

Myron Freedman:

48:22

Morning, Director Scolari.

Robert Stoldal: 48:26 I may be the challenge. I went to the meeting at the convention center at 1:00.

Brenda Scolari: 48:34 I know. I'm sorry.

Robert Stoldal: 48:36 No.

Brenda Scolari: 48:36 The time change was to accommodate the Lieutenant Governor's schedule in the

senate.

Robert Stoldal: 48:42 I finally understand when you-- oh, that makes sense. So I realize I wasn't going that

far crazy.

Brenda Scolari: 48:51 No, no. It was an easy mistake to make. So I'm sorry you missed it. I am going to

update you in regard to our activity in the legislature. So we have a number of bills

that concern museum system. Of course, SB186 in regard to the Ely Museum is an ongoing concern. We're meeting with legislators to discuss the facts from the museum's perspective, of course. And we have attached a fiscal note to reflect our understanding of the monies that would be owed related to the conservation bond money that has funded the design phase of the innovation of the Freight Building to date. There are a couple of other bills that would affect us and that we have been asked to render a fiscal conclusion regarding-- one of them is kind of an extension of the bill last session that created the tribal liaisons, which each department established someone that was an existing staff member to take on the role of a tribal liaison for the department. This bill, which I don't have, I don't know what number it is

Unknown: 50:37

It is 94.

Brenda Scolari: 50:38

And 94 would kind of extend that concept to create full-time positions related to having a person, then be tasked with understanding how any travel projects would touch whatever the department does and be a classified position, full-time classified position for each division within the department. So the fiscal note, even for our department, is too extensive. So I don't know where that bill stands. I don't believe it's gone to committee yet, but we will be following that one. And then there was also a bill related to accessibility to state museums, which we know is an issue. I don't have the bill in front of me and I should. Can't remember if I do have it?

Myron Freedman:

51:44

Brenda Scolari: 51:47

?: 52:13

Brenda Scolari: 52:14

Yeah. [inaudible].

Oh, I do have it in front of me. And we have not yet attached a fiscal note to this. I also have an executive, let's see, briefing. Okay, thank you. This is in the packets, am I right?

No.

No? We also have an executive bill related to a department restructuring, that I proposed which will do a number of things. One of them is absorb the personnel of Nevada Magazine into the marketing team of the division of tourism, which will solve the ongoing struggle they've had in producing enough ad revenue to keep their operations going. By statute, they're an enterprise fund and have to function as a business and that's been something of a problem for many publications but that includes the magazine. So we really feel like that will be a solution. They'll continue to produce the Nevada Magazine and visitors guide on a quarterly basis. They'll just be a part of Travel Nevada instead of a separate entity. It also creates a separate and new budget account that will hold all of the operating expenses for the department and all of the personnel that do work for all the departments. So like our IT staff, our fiscal people, Samantha and Francine doing PR and marketing work for the cultural agencies. And it's just kind of cleaner accounting.

Brenda Scolari: 53:47

Currently all of the lodging tax flows in one account and then is just handled in one account which is kind of an ongoing problem because our tourism commission, of course, oversees all of the expenditure related to tourism but that's only a few of those expense categories in reality. So I'm hoping that will be a bit more clear just operationally. It also [inaudible]. Oh, well, and this is an important one. It creates a deputy of tourism. So I am [crosstalk] state government who oversees the department and the division. So creating another deputy position who will focus on the work of the marketing and industry development teams within the division of tourism allows me to focus on everything else. I'll continue to oversee all of the

administration of any of our federal funding, I'll oversee the new marketing and PR staff and hopefully expand upon that. And I hope to help Myron pursue some sponsorship opportunities, do some more strategic planning and annual reporting, and just take on more expansive administrative role than I'm currently allowed to do.

Robert Stoldal: 55:36

Director Scolari, I think that that's really an important piece of legislation that would really benefit the museum system as well as the other cultural elements that you currently oversee. But it seems to me that you're spread very thin, not only because of staffing issues and so forth. But while everything is moving forward in a very positive way on so many levels, whether the federal grant that you've received and worked hard on. But I think that this would give you some additional time that it seems that you're working 24/7 to cover all of the areas. And just one other point that got nothing to do with you, for everybody that is not speaking, please mute because the minute your sound goes off, we lose the video for a second. So please everybody, mute if you're not speaking. So I think that last piece of legislation really is important. Secondly, the liaison under SB94, one of the challenges that this board has received is for, despite the fact that the Nevada legislature and the governor signed—who's home? Please put your mic on mute.

[silence]

Robert Stoldal: 57:16

Thank you.

Sarah Cowie: 57:17

Whoever's hosting ought to be able to mute and unmute people. I'm not sure who's the actual host of this meeting, but could do that if it continues to be a problem.

Robert Stoldal: 57:27

Yeah. I agree with you, Sarah. Thank you. So if the host could keep an eye out for that. But one of the challenges that this board has received, as I mentioned, that the legislature approved, the governor signed, and the governor appointed, is an official member of this commission by a person--

Myron Freedman: 57:52

Just muted. [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal: 58:00

Two points that I wanted to make. First of all Director Scolari, I think that this light piece of legislation is going to give you additional time to oversee the cultural affairs while you've got somebody working for you that also was going to be working in tourism. I think it's great. As I mentioned under review, I think you're working 24/7 as it is now and I think that's going to be a great piece of legislation that we all should support however we can. Secondly, the challenge with AB or SB94 is several years ago, the legislature and the governor assigned or the governor appointed was a representative nominated by the Office of Indian Affairs. And that person has not showed up to represent the indigenous population for two years. Has there been any discussion with the council or anybody regarding this opportunity that is being missed?

Brenda Scolari: 59:12

For the record, Brenda Scolari, I am unfamiliar with that requirement. I'm sorry Chair Stoldal, I can't speak to that.

Robert Stoldal: 59:25

There's actually 12 full-time members that the governor appoints and one of the challenges with this person not showing up for the last two plus years, is it impacts the quorum on a regular basis. But more important is--

Brenda Scolari: 59:42 [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal: 59:43 Go ahead.

Brenda Scolari: 59:44 Sorry. You're referring to the Indian Commission?

?: 59:47 Yeah.

Robert Stoldal: 59:48 The Indian Commission nominates somebody to the governor's office and they have

done that. The governor's office has appointed a member of this board but that

person has not showed up for two years.

?: 01:00:00 [inaudible].

Brenda Scolari: Okay. I am aware of that and we have to have further discussions with Director 01:00:02

Montooth to see if we can't get someone appointed who will have a little better

attendance record. We have the same issue with the Tourism Commission.

Robert Stoldal: Opportunities. A tremendous opportunity both on the Tourism and the State Museum

Board and whatever energy that you can push that forward with the council, that

would be great. Further questions from the board?

Michelle Schmitter:

01:00:45

01:00:27

Michelle Schmitter--

Robert Stoldal:

01:00:45

Please, go ahead.

Michelle Schmitter:

01:00:46

--record, would you speak to AB80 about the Atomic Testing Center Museum or are

you going to state it to Myron?

Myron Freedman:

01:00:55

I will speak [inaudible].

Michelle Schmitter:

01:00:57

Okay, I will turn it over to Myron.

Myron Freedman:

01:01:02

Myron Freeman for the record, the question has to do with AB80, the Atomic Testing Museum, which we were not involved with that bill. I've noticed that it hasn't been scheduled for another hearing. Bob, I understand you might have more information

about the status of that bill. Is that right?

Robert Stoldal:

01:01:22

AB80?

Myron Freedman:

01:01:24

80, the Atomic Testing Museum site?

Robert Stoldal:

01:01:28

No, I don't, I'm not familiar with that.

Myron Freedman:

01:01:31

I don't have any further information.

Michelle Schmitter:

01:01:33

I hope so. We know about the proposal. Yes, I don't know where it stands in terms of if it's gone to the committee yet. I don't believe it has. We were going to attend and

see what happens there.

Myron Freedman:

01:01:49

Okay. I like that.

Robert Stoldal:

01:01:56

Further questions?

Michelle Schmitter:

01:01:58

Any questions?

01.01.50

Anthony Timmons:

01:02:00

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

01:02:02

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

01:02:03

We have, I guess, the bill regarding the hearing in sight impaired. We have it listed as

a BDR150. It is now a bill. I just wanted to clarify that.

Myron Freedman:

01:02:16

Myron Freedman, for the record, BDR150 is now 8252, and I think the board should be aware as I sent you information, email. The bill asks for a position to be added to this board to represent a disability point of view in museums. So I think that's greatly

important for the board to understand.

[silence]

Myron Freedman:

01:03:03

Here it is. Yes. So the bill was just dropped on Tuesday. So I haven't really had a chance to look at it carefully, but it does several things. It creates the account for improving access to state museums for persons with disabilities in the general fund. It just establishes an account. There's no money in it as far as I know. The membership position on the board. And then, it wants the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs to develop and maintain an internet website related to institutions of the

division and ensure that the internet website is accessible to persons who are blind or visually impaired. Authorizes the administrator to authorize or require the accessibility of the exhibits in the institution to persons who are blind and visually impaired. And then it requires the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans

and Adults With Special Needs to study during the coming fiscal year any issues that exist that limit the ability of persons with disabilities to access the museums and

provide in other manners properly related to that.

Robert Stoldal:

01:04:24

Questions? Comments? From the Board. All right. Director Scolari, one last question, yesterday at the Nevada Commission on Tourism, the Commission was supplied a copy of the budget. A part of that budget reflected how much money goes to each museum. There were two documents in there. I'm wondering whether or not those

documents could be forwarded to the full Board? I think they're on your website or on the Commission's website, but if it's possible to forward those two documents. And one of them is, and I sound like a broken record here, but one of them simply says, "Funding for the Nevada Railroad Museums," and it doesn't break down how much goes to Carson City, or Boulder City, or Ely. I was wondering if that information

could also be provided to the board.

Brenda Scolari:

01:05:31

For the record, Brenda Scolari. Our materials are posted. I'll make sure that material-the one sheet related to budget account 1522 that you're referring to is forwarded to the board. I believe we discussed this at the last board meeting which is the lodging tax transfer related to the railroad museum's is one plan out. And it is broken down on the museum's accounting side. And I believe Daphne provided that breakdown in

December, but we can--

Myron Freedman:

01:06:19

Moving forward. She's saying she'll make sure to include it in the packet in the future.

Brenda Scolari:

01:06:26

Myron is saying that he'll make sure that that breakdown is provided in the future.

Robert Stoldal:

01:06:33

I think, quite frankly, it's helpful to understand how the railroads are funded differently. And the ongoing challenge that Boulder City has with its funding source and how Carson City is funded differently I think that that would clearly show up in that budget breakdown rather than just the generic terms. I think it would just be a helpful piece of information education for the board to get those numbers and look forward to getting them from Daphne as we move forward. Thank you. Further questions from Director Scolari? Whose got? Hearing none, thank you so much.

Brenda Scolari:

01:07:26

You're welcome.

Myron Freedman:

01:07:29

Myron, if we could just take two seconds, the camera seems locked on this particular spot. I was wondering if there was a way to unlock it so when somebody speaks that we could move it over to the board side so it's not just this generic. As much as we like to see the man from Ely on the right side. I think that's Dan in the far background next to the door. I think there's a button that allows us to.

Myron Freedman:

01:08:08

This one has the microphone. So it can't be that one. That one's the power. And then this one over here, that looks like a microphone too. So it should have one on another side and then a speaker.

?: 01:08:26 Because currently, none of us are very techno-geeky. Except maybe Chris.

?: 01:08:37 Dr. [crosstalk]--

?: 01:08:38 None of us are real techno-geeky.

Myron Freedman:

01:08:40

I haven't had a chance to play with this so I haven't fully figured it out.

?: 01:08:44 He's under 35, right?

Myron Freedman:

01:08:45

Yeah, there we go. [laughter]

?: 01:08:47 About that age.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

01:08:48

So now we seem to Direct Bonde, Director right in the center of the action. And we

don't see the board.

Myron Freedman:

01:08:57

Do you want to call for a pause on the recording while we--

Robert Stoldal:

01:09:01

Let's take a-- it's now 9:14, let's take a break until 9:30 and let's get this worked out. We've got some important things on the agenda that we need to make sure that we are clear and get the board's full impact. Let's take a break. Please stop the recording.

Myron Freedman:

01:09:24

Not that we don't want the cam--

Robert Stoldal:

01:09:25

Yeah, they're back. Please start the recording. I'd like to call the Board of Museums and History for Thursday, March the 9th, 2023 back in session. We are at agenda item

number 12, the administrator's report. Myron Freedman, please.

Myron Freedman:

01:09:43

Myron Freedman, for the record. Very quickly, on a few items. We've got some new hires that the directors can report on during their report but all the museums at this particular point in time, and the division have active recruitments going on. We have our two capital projects. These are the things that are taking up a lot of our time. Two capital projects in Ely and Boulder City. And then recently, of course, we've had to

focus from the division to prepare for the two budget hearings in January and February. And that is including intense communication with the GFO to prepare information per their direction, and we're continuing to answer their questions on the budget questions. Also we've been meeting with legislators for the past few weeks to share information about some of the bills. And if there's no other questions on those items, I will turn it over to Josh Bonde for a report on NAGPRA.

Robert Stoldal:

01:10:47

Any question for the board regarding the first 12A? Hearing none, go to item 12B.

Josh Bonde: 01:11:00

Josh Bonde, for the record. So before I get started with the NAGPRA report, I'd just like to acknowledge that we're meeting today in, beautiful Eagle Valley, which is home to the Washoe people, and that the Nevada State Museum is responsible not just for the storytelling of the Washoe, but of the other tribes of the Great Basin, the Numu, the Nuwu, and my people's the Newe. So with that, let's start the NAGPRA report. In November of 2022, the Nevada State Museum repatriated by five ancestors in the Lovelock Paiute Tribe, and one ancestor to the Washoe Tribe. We have the repatriation plan for this week, but due to inclement weather, it has been postponed. Consultations, we have been in consultation with the Lovelock Paiute Tribe for the repatriation of 10 additional ancestors which are controlled by Nevada Historical Society, and four additional ones controlled by the Nevada State Museum.

Josh Bonde: 01:12:00

On February 9th, we hosted a NAGPRA consultation for the Naval Air Station in Fallon. In attendance were representatives from the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, the Walker River Paiute Tribe, the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, and the Yomba Shoshone Tribe. As the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, is beginning that process of repatriating ancestors, ancestral remains which are under their control. Niagara Communications, Dr. Camp met with Registrar Braskoff on January 17th of 2023 to discuss NHS control, NAGPRA related ancestral remains and cultural objects. NAGPRA related information was conveyed to the American Museum of Natural History and the University of California Santa Barbara regarding archeological sites hosted here at the Nevada State Museum.

Josh Bonde: 01:12:55

We've also additionally worked with the Historical Society and the Park Service to list 10 additional ancestors on the Niagara inventory like the Park Service curators. Over the last couple of weeks myself, Dr. [inaudible], and Dr. Camp have done macrorelated interviews with some local media sources with the approval of division and department. These should be positive—based on conversations with the reporters, these should be positive leaning. Other macro-related work, we have finished a NAGPRA special curatorial room within our Indian Hills facility which would be devoted purely to ancestry remains and their respectful housing of them until they can go home. All right, so with that, I conclude the report on NAGPRA activities here at the state museum.

Robert Stoldal: 01:13:55

Any questions from the-- what I was thinking of a moment there, director, was looking to see whether the board packet included a written report. Is there a reason why we're not getting a written report?

Josh Bonde: 01:14:12

Josh Bonde, for the record. NAGPRA activities fall underneath the other activities section within the Nevada State Museum Board report package.

Robert Stoldal:

So with the report you just gave us is written report, later on?

01:14:22

Josh Bonde: 01:14:27

It is. I can provide this written report or the bolded report I just provided to the board, if requested.

Robert Stoldal:

01:14:36

No. The chair assembly had a bit of a problem. The board packet that was mailed to the chair is different than the board packet that is on the electronic. It doesn't contain the same information, so the board chair had a bit of a challenge this morning in reconciling the packet that was mailed to him and the one that's on-- so if there's a written report-- thank you very much and I will look forward to reading that as well as the progress. It's from the chair's perspective that you have been making since your arrival as a director. So thank you for all the work that you've been doing. Questions from the rest of the board? Seeing no hands go up--

Sarah Cowie: 01:15:28

Sarah Cowie, for the record, sorry--

Robert Stoldal:

Go ahead.

01:15:30

Sarah Cowie: 01:15:30

Thank you. Sarah Cowie, for the record. Yeah, thank you for the update on all of the progress and hard work that people have been putting into moving this forward. Like Bob, I also struggled with finding where that information was. I had the printed copy so, I don't know, maybe I should switch to using the electronic one. But yeah, I think, in the future, I always appreciate as much information as we can have on the details of all of the hard work that people have been doing to move this forward. I recognize that some of the information may be sensitive and certain TAHPOs, tribal and historic preservation officers, might not want certain sensitive information out there, but I trust that you all are working with them on that. But I would just say, I appreciate as much information as we can have from meeting to meeting, even just the numbers. A couple of meetings ago, we had numbers of all of the ancestors that are within museum holdings, and I can go back and dig through my packet and try to find those numbers again, but it might be helpful to see them repeated if that would be acceptable, just so that we can, again, see and acknowledge the progress that's being made.

Sarah Cowie: 01:16:50

I'd also be curious to hear updates on-- and you provided some, and I know Anna Camp is working very hard on working with the agencies that have ancestors under their control and trying to encourage them to move forward with this process too. And it's hopeful to hear that that work is also being done, I just would maybe like to hear a little more about it. Sorry. This is a bit long-winded. I'll try to get all my points and questions out there and then make of it what you will. But I was also curious as to-- I know the Nevada State Museum in Carson is working very hard, but I know that other staff and other museums are probably contributing to this process too. I was looking for reports, NAGPRA reports, in each individual museum report and not seeing them, and some where I thought I would see them. So I would just sort of suggest that to museum directors. I personally would like to see that in each museum report that has archival documents or associated burial objects still within their holdings or under their control. I'd just like to see, well, what are their staff doing to help you all out with this important process. And maybe I'll just leave it at that. Thank you.

Josh Bonde: 01:18:21

Josh Bonde, for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

Please go ahead.

01:18:23

Josh Bonde: 01:18:24 Dr. Camp is working closely with the registrar with the Historical Society. So we do

have a number of ancestral remains that are under the Historical Society's control at our Indian Hills facility. And they're working with us collaboratively to move their

material forward as well, try to get these folks home.

Harry Ward: 01:18:47 Mr. Chair, for the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, just a friendly

reminder for everyone to identify themselves when they speak. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal: Stoldal, for the record. For whatever reason, we have Harry's image decided to stay up even though he's not speaking. Well, now he's frozen. So the question or the-- m

up even though he's not speaking. Well, now he's frozen. So the question or the-- my point is simply to underline what Sarah said, if we could have some consistency in the written report that shows the progress that is being made in each of these categories. Clearly, from the December meeting until now, significant progress has been made. But if there's some consistency in the report, and I'm going to have to go online to get a copy of that, I just assumed that that would all be in the printed report. But clearly, the material was updated on Monday and Tuesday, which is great to have a full board packet, but if we could have some consistency in the report so it would just make it easier for the board members not to have to go back through three or four board packets and compare one thing to another. But again, significant progress is being made and that's just great news. So further comments or questions from the rest of the board? I do not see any hands going up. We're going to go to here. Well, I'm still stuck on Harry; I don't know why. All right so we'll just go to the wide screen. Then let's move on to Myron, which is 12C, status report of the online board manual.

Myron Freedman: 01:20:57

Myron Freedman, for the record. We have been collecting all of the board manual materials and then we actually have them on a website and on a protected page. And as soon as we've done-- we've finished putting everything in there, we'll give the chair the access to that. We can review that, we can take notes on what we need to update further. And then that will be the process. And at some point when the chair and the division are confident that it's got the right documents in there--

Robert Stoldal: 01:21:37

Myron, let's just stop for a second here. All we see is the important staff; we don't see you, we see the staff. For whatever reason it's not kicking over to the person that speaks.

Myron Freedman: 01:21:53

Myron Freedman, for the record. Talking to the Owl now to switch over here. And it's not moving. Oh, it was moving shortly.

Robert Stoldal:

01:22:02

01:22:04

Before. Yes.

Myron Freedman:

Okay. Tech is here checking it out. Testing, testing, one, two, three. Testing, one, two,

three. Still frozen. Testing. Testing. Testing. Testing.

Unknown: 01:22:37

Let me reboot the Owl. Can we recess for just a minute and let me do this?

Myron Freedman:

Yeah. We're going to unplug and re-plug and see what happens.

01:22:42

Reboot is always a good place to do it-- start with.

01:22:53

Myron Freedman:

Robert Stoldal:

[inaudible] IT crowd [inaudible].

01:22:57

?: 01:23:05 I think this is proof [crosstalk].

?: 01:23:06 IT 101: reboot it right?

Unknown: 01:23:17 I've got a hammer downstairs. I've got a hammer downstairs. [inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

Well, now it seems to be working, is it? Yeah. Okay, so Michelle, say something.

01:23:32

Michelle Schmitter:

01:23:40

Michelle Schmitter, for the record.

Myron Freedman:

01:23:44

And Christopher.

Christopher

MacMahon: 01:23:46

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. So it seems to do it for about five minutes

and then it--

?: 01:23:54 And then it gets tired?

?: 01:23:57 Quits paying attention.

Robert Stoldal:

01:24:04

Myron, if you could ask somebody-- Anthony if he could speak.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

01:24:09

Anthony Timmons, testing, one, two three. One, two, three.

?: 01:24:15

Well, it's on him, it's just he's in the background.

?: 01:24:17

See, there he is right there.

Myron Freedman:

01:24:18

Okay. Testing, testing. Hello now.

Robert Stoldal:

01:24:24

All right.

Myron Freedman:

01:24:27

It's got a delay, as you were pointing out earlier, Bob. When it works at all.

Robert Stoldal:

01:24:33

Well, I think whatever, the reboot helped a bit. So we were on the 12C status report

online. You mentioned that there's a-- it's in the works?

Myron Freedman:

01:24:46

It's in the works. We have a page on our website dedicated to the manual. It's protected right now so you can't access it. As soon as we finish uploading all the

documents, Bob, I thought we could make it accessible to you. You could go through it, we could have a discussion about what needs to be further updated and replaced and then when we're happy, it's in the shape and we open it up and make it available

to all the board members.

Robert Stoldal:

01:25:14

Well, one of the things that we just would need to make sure that, it's on the lower end, is make sure that we have updated material on the board members so the public

knows in fact who is serving and has access through the museum system to each of the board members as well as the policy. I think it's the policy that is probably the most important as well as any statutory responsibilities. But the question that I've received from most-- from the board members is access to existing board policy so this is great news, Myron. Really appreciate the effort that your team has put into this

over the challenging staffing situation that you had. So with that, is there any

comment from-- if there's any board member that has a comment or a thought about what should be in the board manual, it's a public manual, please let me know. And

again, so we don't violate any open meeting law, I'll just send that unilaterally to myself rather than copy to the full board and then we can have a public discussion when we're ready to launch that. Myron, do you want to move on to 12D East Ely railroad?

Myron Freedman: 01:26:49

Myron Freedman, for the record. East Ely Railroad Museum update. We went through a mediation process with the foundation that was in February 1st, I think, and that did not yield anything substantive. They actually informed us at the time that they would be submitting the BDR. So that was the big news out of that meeting. The Freight Barn Remodel Project continues at Pace. Work is continuing on the design details. This is State Public Works managing a contract with LGA Architects out of Las Vegas. That project is moving into what they call the 100% CDs, the construction documents, and we expect that project to be shovel-ready probably early in the summer. The current CIP, the governor's recommended budget contains funding for the construction of this project. So the funding for all of the design work has been done through a bond fund, and then the construction will be done through the state CIP process. This also includes stabilization of the Depots Foundation. And so that's over \$850,000 for the Depot and 7.7 million for the construction of the Freight Building. These projects would commence probably in the fall once we're done with the design documents. Any questions on the East Ely Railroad Museum?

Michelle Schmitter:

01:28:46

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. There was quite a lot of discussion at the last meeting about the exterior siding. What is the treatment approach that was decided on?

Myron Freedman:

01:28:59

Myron Freedman, for the record. The exterior siding is something that I will be getting a recommendation from public works on. They just changed project managers on this. And so the new project manager is getting up to speed and he contacted me to say he wanted to discuss the final approach we would like to take with that.

Robert Stoldal:

01:29:26

Well, we were good for a second there - Stoldal, for the record - but now we are locked in with Daphne in Carson City, and Brenda, and Myron. We do not see the board.

Dan Markoff: 01:29:43

Mr. Chairman, this is Dan Markoff. Can you hear me?

Robert Stoldal:

01:29:47

Yes.

Dan Markoff: 01:29:47

I'd like to as Myron a question. What is that? Did I hear 7 million for the Freight Building?

Myron Freedman:

01:29:56

7.7, Dan. Myron Freedman, for the record.

Dan Markoff: 01:30:00

What's all that going towards?

Myron Freedman:

01:30:05

Myron Freedman, for the record. The Freight Building is a building constructed in 1905. And I'm actually going to ask director, Sean Pitts, to kind of describe the building and what we're accomplishing with this design forum.

Sean Pitts: 01:30:26

Sean Pitts, for the record. So the historic Freight Building, 115-year-old building, was built to house freight that came off of the railroad. And it was never-- in its design, initially, was never designed to be insulated or heated or anything like that. It was simply a shell. And so we've brought together 27 leaders from our community, from businesses and from government and from education and from tourism, and we said, "What do you need this building to be?" And together they came up with a plan that

we presented to Public Works and then Public Works presented it in consultation with LGA Architects. And that plan is the basis of what Myron is talking about. They've brought together specialists in insulation and electricians and plumbers and fire suppression, and so the ultimate goal will be to take-- will be to have a brand new 115-year-old building usable to the public, based on public input, and what Public Needs said they wanted. But a year-round facility. So the short answer to your question - I apologize for the long answer - the short answer is we will insulate the building, we will fire-suppress it, we'll upgrade the restrooms, we'll upgrade the electricity, and make that building usable for Eastern Nevada for year-round use.

Myron Freedman: 01:31:53

Then it has special components - Myron Freedman, for the record - has special components inside the building that will allow caterers to set up for special events when you want to have-- be catered. Then we're going to have a archive and collection-storage room that will be specially insulated to control the climate inside that area. And then the freight office, which is probably kind of one of the more interesting rooms in the building, will remain its historic self and be used as a reading room for the archival materials. Sean has plans for continuing to tell the story of White Pine County, of railroading, of mining in Eastern Nevada in an exhibit that will go through the Freight Building. And Dan, one reason that it's 7,700,000 has to do with the size of the building. It's an enormous building. If you're not familiar with it, which I think you are--

Dan Markoff: 01:32:56

I've been there a bunch of times.

Myron Freedman:

01:32:58

Yeah, so you know how large it is. And that's one reason that the cost to insulate it and fire suppress it is at the level it's at. Another person on the group that's been working on this building is a fellow board person, Courtney Mooney. And I know, Courtney, if you wanted to add anything to the cost of getting this building where we want it to be.

Courtney Mooney:

01:33:25

This is Courtney Mooney, for the record. I'm not privy to the cost. Is that what you're talking about specifically, or are you saying metaphorically, the cost of [re-value?]?

Myron Freedman:

01:33:36

Well, maybe just sort of the extensive work that has to be done on the building. I don't know if you wanted to comment on that.

Courtney Mooney:

01:33:42

Yeah, yeah, no. I don't have-- it's been quite a while actually. We've been kind of in a holding pattern and waiting for a mistake to come through a final decision. So I'm not even sure exactly what all work had been decided on, at this point. We are meeting, I believe, next week to discuss what the final decision is on the insulation. So I'm sort of waiting with bated breath for that email or for that meeting because I don't even know what they've decided. So I wish I had more to tell you, but I get the impression that a lot of things have changed in the last couple of months since we last met.

Robert Stoldal:

01:34:23

Courtney, thank you. Dan, I think your question really dealt with the issue of cost and I think that along that line, Dan, is there anything else regarding the East Ely, the wonderful freight barn?

Dan Markoff: 01:34:42

Well, I'm certainly not opposed to any of the things that they're going to do to it, I was just amazed at the cost and that's what I was curious about. No, I hope they do a bang-up job on the thing.

Robert Stoldal:

01:34:56

Right. Well, Myron, does the potential for turning over the facility to the private foundation, does that change the funding process or any change in this particular project?

Myron Freedman: 01:35:20

Myron Freedman, for the record. It would change things. We have a contract, right? \$150,000 that is bond-funded. So if you check out the fiscal notes that have been attached to the bill, this is information that comes from the treasurer's office about the need to repay that bond if it goes out of state control. That building goes out of state control. And beyond that, this is the plan that the state has developed in conjunction with State Public Works and the community. I can't speak to how that might change if the building were to leave state control.

**Robert Stoldal:** 01:36:13

Well, Myron, the legislation, which I have not seen but I know you know it intimately, how has it changed from the last legislation two years ago that went nowhere, or the one that went two years before that? I think this is about the fourth time, if I'm not mistaken, that legislation of this type has been proposed. This legislation, is it different from the last legislation? And the reason why I'm asking that is, the board held a public meeting regarding this particular piece of legislation prior to the-- or during the last legislative session, and this board came down very hard with a resolution opposing it. Is there something different in this that would potentially change the board's support or not support?

Sean Pitts: 01:37:11

I think it's the fifth time.

Myron Freedman: 01:37:12

Myron Freedman, for the record. Sean Pitts is indicating that he believes this is the fifth time an effort has been made to take control of the buildings by the foundation. This bill is different from the 2021 bill as it would have the state continue to operate the museum on the 2nd floor of the depot. They'll no longer own the buildings. So the foundation and the city of Ely would lease for no dollars the upstairs of the depot to the state for use as the museum. That's the difference. But we believe that still has complications for the museum. Number one, we lose-- it's the loss of a state historic asset that's under the control of the state. It's the loss of the investment by the state in those buildings. And it's a loss of, of course, the upcoming investment we would be making.

Myron Freedman: 01:38:14

And then we have the disposition of a lot of material that the museum is responsible for that is in the Freight Building and it's in other places around the site. Not just artifacts but not just archival materials but three-dimensional artifacts and also a lot of equipment. And so it begs the question where does that go? And so we thought that through. And so part of the fiscal note attends to that as well. And then I think most importantly, it would establish a precedent for the state giving away a historic asset that's been operating as a museum to a private entity. Presumably, it's also with the city, but it's not spelled out exactly how that relationship would work, so I can't speak to that. But I would suggest if the board is concerned under those circumstances about this building, they may want to consider presenting a position on that.

Myron Freedman: 01:39:23

They may also want to consider showing up, because we just learned late yesterday that there's going to be a hearing on this bill. It's not on the Nellis website yet. This was given to us by one of the senators. This coming Wednesday at 3:30 in the Senate Government Affairs Committee and so if you have an opinion you'd want to share at that time, you could do that. You'll also be able to call it in, of course, but if you wanted to share it in person, you'd be able to do that. We, of course, will be there to answer the questions that the senators have.

Robert Stoldal: 01:40:00

Could you send the board an information on what you just said so we've got a time and date and an email so we can double check on that? Questions from the board? Comments, please. Mercedes?

Mercedes De La Garza:

01:40:18

Mercedes, for the record. I just would like to briefly return to the conversation that board member Schmitter was talking about the siding. Maybe just sort of off the record if someone could give me an update on what that discussion was. Because it's not in the notes and I don't know where to find it.

Michelle Schmitter:

01:40:34

It's actually the insulation.

Mercedes De La Garza:

01:40:36

Okay. The insulation then, as opposed to siding. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

01:40:42

Further questions? I know the board, several members were part of that hearing that we had, public hearing, and it lasted for a couple of hours. Any further comments on this particular piece of legislation? We're looking forward to having a special meeting on it. It has a meeting next Wednesday, which would not give us the opportunity to have a board position between now and then. But there are other steps that would have to take place. Any thoughts from the board? Let's go to anybody online first of all, then we'll go to Anthony. Do we still have people online?

Robert Ostrovsky:

01:41:29

Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Bob Ostrovsky, are we prohibited because of the agenda, public agenda take a written-- take a position? Or can we? At this board meeting.

Robert Stoldal:

01:41:41

Well, let me look at it. These are information items only. This is EC. It's 12D, that. This is not noted as an action item. The only action, I guess, and it wouldn't be action is if there is-- during our discussion if there's some feeling that we need to have a public meeting, we couldn't vote on having a public meeting, but we can certainly talk about the potential as part of the 12D update. I don't know if that answers your question. But we can't take action.

?: 01:42:31 [inaudible].

Robert Ostrovsky:

01:42:32

Yeah, unfortunately. Thank you for that update though.

?: 01:42:40 [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

01:42:42

Myron, if you want to speak so it'll kick back to you.

Myron Freedman:

01:42:46

Myron Freedman, for the record. This is entirely up to the board, of course. If you'll recall last time you did create a resolution and that got entered into the record. And I'm more than happy to help the Chair organize another meeting if you want to take up that discussion if you feel that the board feels it's important to do that. I do think that it may be useful to hear the outcome of the hearing that's coming up and see what the next step is and get a sense of what the committee members are thinking.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

01:43:39

Harry Ward, are you still with us?

Harry Ward: 01:43:44 For the record, Harry Ward. Can you hear me?

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Yes, I can. Harry, the question I was-- go ahead.

01:43:48

. 13.10

Harry Ward: 01:43:52 Mr. Chair, I see no problem with the senate committee seeing the resolution from

two years ago. If someone wants to present it, someone could say, "This is our resolution on the past one. We're in a process of maybe doing another resolution that

would--" etc., etc. Your question sir.

Robert Stoldal:

01:44:10

That's a timely piece of advice. And Myron, I think that that's something that you'll be able to include in the record. Can each board member send me, unilaterally, their feeling on whether we should have a special meeting?

Harry Ward: 01:44:31

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General and I just want to friendly remind everyone to continue doing that. You're doing a good job for identifying yourself. But yes sir, they can send it to you individually, and remind them not to CC or copy anyone else. And likewise, if you had a response to them, do not respond to all just respond to them individually. But is perfectly acceptable and not a violation of the open meeting law, if you give them a directive. Please email me, the chair, or the president, your feelings on this, etc., etc.

Robert Stoldal: 01:45:04

Great. Thank you. So Myron, I'd like to take the two pieces of information. One is that the existing resolution the board passed a couple of years ago. And then secondly, I would request that each board member send me unilaterally as the Attorney General's Office indicated, not copying anybody else about whether or not they feel that the board should take a position on this piece of legislation. And so if you could do that before the week is out, which means tomorrow, today or tomorrow, that would be helpful. And then we'll move forward in that area. Myron, is there more that you want to add to this?

Myron Freedman:

01:45:51

Myron Freedman, for the record, no sir.

Robert Stoldal:

01:45:55

For the board, is there any other questions? Do I see a hand going up over there? Yes.

Doris.

Doris Dwyer: 01:46:04

You're talking about a possible special meeting before Wednesday?

Robert Stoldal:

01:46:08

Yes. And it would likely be a Zoom meeting.

Doris Dwyer: 01:46:11

Myron Freedman:

01:46:13

Myron Freedman, for the record. Wednesday we would have to get everything

wrapped up tomorrow to get it posted by the end of day tomorrow, in order to be

compliant.

Later on.

Harry Ward: 01:46:27

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. No, by 9 o'clock in the morning, because that's under the open meeting law; you have to have it by 9 o'clock with the

three days. So it would have to be done by 9:00 in the morning.

Myron Freedman:

01:46:38

That's true.

Harry Ward: 01:46:38

Sorry about that guys.

Myron Freedman:

01:46:40

Myron, but I think your point is well-taken. Your testimony and whatever else occurs at that meeting would be useful for the board to understand and hear and then we

could call a special meeting.

Jan Petersen: 01:46:57

After Wednesday [inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

01:46:59

For the record, Myron Freedman. I think so, Chair. I also would remind the board that all the information attached to the bill right now is on Nellis, including the fiscal note, so you can read that information there. If you want, I can email drafts of what was

sent to the legislature on this.

Robert Stoldal:

01:47:28

I think that would be helpful. And my last comment - it won't be the last comment - but my comment right now is I would like to thank Dr. Christopher MacMahon for becoming a new technological expert in the-- we see the cameras moving, and that's because there's a human being behind it. So we thank you for that. But it's really helpful now to see the people when they're speaking, and it just helps as we move along. So let's move on then to 12E, Boulder City Railroad Museum update.

Doris Dwyer: 01:48:06

Like last time, we can stream that committee meeting. Okay.

Jan Petersen: 01:48:11

[inaudible] make comments.

Doris Dwyer: 01:48:13

But we can stream it. [crosstalk] we can observe.

Myron Freedman:

01:48:18

Myron Freedman, for the record. The board members are asking about accessing the hearing, and I'm wondering if-- Harry Ward, can you confirm the ability to make comments during the legislative hearing by people Zooming in or calling in.

Harry Ward: 01:48:38

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. I do not know if they will an opportunity to comment on it, but I would think that it would be streamed. Basically, these-- I mean, these committee meetings are not subject to the open meeting laws, so they are exempt. But they usually do, depends upon where they are in a committee meeting, accept public comment, etc., etc. I don't know, but from my understanding, this is the first meeting. But I still fully understand that you might be able to, quote-unquote, "livestream" it but may not be able to comment.

Daphne DeLeon:

01:49:15

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. I've been watching the committee hearings on the legislative website. You can stream it and there is a phone number that you can call in, and provide public comment, either in support, neutral or against, so.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

01:49:37

Thank you. The only thing I would request is, and would support any board member that wanted to make a comment, is that they would be speaking unilaterally as opposed to what the board has, other than the board did vote on this two years ago. So great. Any other questions before we move on to 12E?

Jan Petersen: 01:50:04

I have one. Jan Petersen, for the record. Myron, will you send us the information, how to access the hearing? Can you?

Myron Freedman:

01:50:16

Myron Freedman, for the record. Yes, I can do that. Yes. Myron Freedman, for the record. Share with your indulgent 12B--

Robert Stoldal:

01:50:31

Please.

Myron Freedman:

01:50:32

--the Boulder City Museum. That project is moving into the 100% design document phase. We're trying right now to schedule with the public works and the architectural firm. So a lot of work has gone into this, a lot of development has gone into this. The project, again, is scheduled to be shovel-ready this summer. Public works manages this contract with LGA Architects. The funding for this project comes from the Conserve Nevada, CIP, which is also in the governor's budget. So this is a different CIP fund. And it contains the funding for the construction of the building. So we're all just very excited that this is moving along as we've been hoping it would for a bit now.

Robert Stoldal:

01:51:26

This is a quick reminder to the board, while this is a museum and visitor center, it's not a museum in the sense that-- like Nevada State Museum or Carson City. People can come and go without paying any fee. They can look at the exhibits and do all of those kinds of things. In that sense, it's more of a visitors center. There will be a store. And there will be a ticket counter for the trains and whatever other rental things that

we have there. But it won't be a museum in the sense of an admission fee, which is a challenge and an opportunity. Myron, did you want to talk about 12 E1, the staffing challenges that Boulder City faces?

Myron Freedman: 01:52:26

Yes, sir. Myron Freedman, for the record. I'm going to make one editorial comment on the last thing you said which is, I think as we see the project develop, and we think about how it's going to function and operate, to see if there's an opportunity for having it with an admission fee of some sort. Since the programs happen on the weekends, that's where the fees would be collected for the train rides. So do we want to establish an admission fee for the museum/visitor center? Something to consider, Chair.

Robert Stoldal: 01:53:07

I think there's an opportunity there, so thank you.

Myron Freedman: 01:53:13

Myron Freedman, for the record. With the help of the director of the Boulder City Museum, Dr. MacMahon, I'm just going to kind of briefly go through what I was asked to present which is, what's the staffing plan for this museum. And I'll start off by maybe throwing it to our ASO, Daphne DeLeon to talk a little bit about what we were looking for in this biennium, but now it's being pushed or it's not being included.

Daphne DeLeon: 01:53:49

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. In this upcoming biennium '24/'25, we did put forth a request to establish a groundskeeper position at the Boulder City Museum, and additionally a sales and promotion rep at the East Ely Museum. That request did not go forward. So we are looking forward to '26 and '27, re-putting those positions up as a request to fund in addition to additional positions for Boulder City, because the museum is going to be open in the '26/'27 biennium.

Myron Freedman: 01:54:33

So Myron Freedman, for the record, with that in mind, for the '26/'27 biennium; we're looking to increase our base funding to include the following positions; that would be a grounds maintenance worker, and actually we want to establish that position the fall of 2023. There's just a lot of work that needs to happen on the property, and we will look to support that through manpower if possible. So that's a high priority. Curator of education, also, we can't put it into the budget request until the next biennium but that's another position that the director's interested in establishing earlier and he's going to look into getting some grant funding to do that. The other positions that would be part of the '26/'27 would be: two museum attendants, hopefully two custodians, but at least one, and a restoration specialist. So that would be the budget cycle after this one.

Robert Stoldal: 01:55:37

Myron, what's the current-- it was my understanding that the positions-- there was an open position of a-- in Boulder City, but that has been frozen. What's the current staffing situation now?

Myron Freedman: 01:55:53

Myron Freedman, for the record. I'm going to kick it to Dr. MacMahon and he can fill you in on that.

Christopher MacMahon: 01:55:57

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. We currently have an open recruitment for the Railroad Restoration Specialist 2. It's open and ongoing and we're hoping to fill it, but trying to find people that are both qualified and willing to accept what the state is paying is problematic.

Robert Stoldal: 01:56:17

How many people do you have working for you now?

Christopher

MacMahon: 01:56:21

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. In addition to myself, there are two other staff members: Jon Lawford who is an administrative assistant; and David Jetson who

is a facilities maintenance specialist.

Robert Stoldal:

01:56:33

So there's three, and potentially a fourth if you find the restoration person.

Christopher

MacMahon: 01:56:39

Correct.

Robert Stoldal:

01:56:40

Okay. And then once the museum visitors center opens, what would be the-- what's the asking for the staffing for the total facility at that point, whether it's the restoration, or I mean groundskeeper? What do you see or what's the bare minimum

that you would need? And what's the target date to open?

Christopher

MacMahon: 01:57:12

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The target date to open would be early 2026,

assuming construction goes as scheduled.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

So then you would have to have staffing in place a few months before that, or hopefully. And what would you-- what do you see as the bare minimum to open the

facility at that point?

Christopher

01:57:24

MacMahon: 01:57:40

Bear with me just one moment. I'm writing them all down and calculating here.

Myron Freedman:

01:57:44

[inaudible].

Christopher

MacMahon: 01:57:45

It looks like 10. Yeah. So Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Myron and I have an agreement the bare minimum would be 10 total staff, not including the store person

that would come from the support.

Myron Freedman:

01:58:03

Myron Freedman, for the record. Go ahead, Chair. Sorry.

Robert Stoldal:

01:58:06

So we potentially have four now with the restoration person and then looking for an

additional six at the next biennium?

Myron Freedman:

01:58:19

Myron Freedman, for the record. That's correct. But also, through the trust fund supporting a museum storekeeper. So this is something we'd like the board to kind of keep in mind because the store won't be up and running yet. So we won't be seeing the revenues. But we'll be showing the projections. And based on the projections, we would like to see the storekeeper start in the spring, at the latest the summer of 2025. That gives the person a chance to do the ordering for the store, make sure everything is there, and the store's fully stocked when we open. So there will be some

discussion about that at a future meeting.

Robert Stoldal:

01:59:03

Yeah, that makes a lot of sense. Would also make a lot of sense for Dr. MacMahon to have the rest of the staff in place no later than the fall of 2025 for the opening as well.

So great. Further questions for the board? Any more on that, Myron?

Myron Freedman:

01:59:27

01:59:30

Myron Freedman, for the record. No, sir.

Robert Stoldal:

The next one, the status. This is 12-E2. Status of AG Opinion Request from the board.

This looks like it goes to Harry Ward.

Harry Ward: 01:59:43

For the record, Deputy Attorney General Harry Ward. I've been inquired as per Director Freedman has asked me on numerous occasions, which I have done. The person that edits or drafts the AG Opinion is a solicitor general. I'm hoping - and I've made some inquiries - that we have the opinion by the next meeting. It's not unusual for AG Opinions to take a long time, and it depends on the complexity and how specific we were, we being the board, and I think we asked five or six specific questions. And I think that is one of the reasons why we do not have a full opinion as of this date. Just to let you know I do have one other AG's opinion with the real estate division which is still outstanding also. Questions?

**Robert Stoldal:** 02:00:42

No. I think that's the answer that is the most up to date and we will have to live with that and we can always stand out in front of the AG's office with a sign, "Where's our opinion?" but I think we'll wait for that. Comments or questions from the board? [inaudible]. Go ahead please.

Myron Freedman: 02:01:10

Myron Freedman, Fireman, for the record. Because of the complications getting things rolling today, I didn't get a chance to report on one item which was the museum's EDR for forwarding funds. That has now become a budget amendment and just to make sure the board is appraised of what's happening, this is a result of the rail bike lease. So the Mendocino railway is the new rail bike vendor. The final lease is being prepared by state public lands and will go to the BOE, I believe in June. And the monthly lease fee is set at \$48,373. So there's a significant income that will start accruing to this museum. That's going to figure heavily into some of these plans we've been talking about regarding staffing. While we expect to start the lease as soon as it is signed, we expect the rail operations to start two to three months after that.

**Robert Stoldal:** 02:02:21

So if I understand correctly, the Board of Museums and History, which has statutory responsibility for renting, leasing equipment, and the facilities at the Nevada State Museum is going to be bypassed, and this is going to go directly to the board of examiners?

Myron Freedman: 02:02:41

Myron Freedman, for the record. This is a process being handled via the NRS that applies to state lands.

Robert Stoldal: 02:02:50

So the answer is yes, the Board of Museums is going to be bypassed again?

Myron Freedman: 02:02:55

Myron Freedman, for the record. Regarding the leasing of state lands, that won't come before the board. However, as part of the process of establishing all elements of the-- not the lease, but of what the vendor would like to accomplish regarding any other revenues, that will come before the board for their consideration.

Robert Stoldal: 02:03:23

I'm sorry. I thought they were renting the railroad and the buildings. I thought that came before the museum board?

Myron Freedman:

They're leasing the property to run their railroad. And the lease allows them--

02:03:33

Christopher

MacMahon: 02:03:44

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The way this has unfolded the way that is has is because in the interest it lists the responsibilities of the board. It says, "The use of state lands," which this would be a use of the land for the right-of-way of the railroad, "Must go through a lease set-up by the Nevada division of state plans." Which is the process we have followed. That lease includes use of land, not actual property, other than the rails themselves which they will be running on. Any structures that they operate in are going to be erected temporarily by the company themselves. They have joint-use over public facing facilities such as restrooms, but those are things that will be open to any guest that visits the museum, and therefore, wouldn't follow under the statue of the responsibilities of the board, based on the opinions we've had from the Attorney General's Office, for both Board of Museums and History, as well as Division of the State Lands thus far, pending further official response as DAG Ward noted earlier.

Robert Stoldal: 02:04:55

I'm absorbing all you said. It seems to me that anything-- the museums are on state land, so therefore this gives the State Lands control over anything that's on state lands, which is really a change from the last 30 years the way that this board has operated. And so we're going forward with this despite the fact that there's a request for an attorney general's opinion to clear this up? And I didn't quite understand exactly what you said. Will this in any way come before this board? Myron?

Myron Freedman: 02:05:42

[crosstalk] for the record. If they wish to have any vending services such as gift shop sales, that kind of thing, that comes before the board for their consideration and any approvals and any fee setting.

Robert Stoldal: 02:06:01

So is there currently a contract that has been written?

Myron Freedman:

There is a lease draft that the state public lands put together.

02:06:08

Robert Stoldal: Does it refer anyway to a store?

02:06:15

Myron Freedman: It only says that if they are wishing to do anything like that, that must come before

the Board of Museums and History.

02:06:18

I will have to say it's a bit sad that we have to find out about it by probing questions rather than just being informed of the process. Is there anything else in that lease

draft that includes the museum board?

Robert Stoldal: 02:06:33

Myron Freedman:

02:06:51

No.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:06:52

Just a store?

Myron Freedman:

02:06:54

Just any other revenues that are the result of any kind of sales or anything related to that would come before the board. We haven't gotten a response from them on any

of that yet. That's one reason I don't have more information.

Robert Stoldal:

02:07:15

Attorney General Ward, assuming that this contract goes forward and goes to the Board of Examiners and the AG's office comes back and says, "No, the Board of

Museums has the authority," what happens to that lease agreement?

Harry Ward: 02:07:37

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, this is not an official AG's opinion, but I think the agreement would be null and void. If the State Lands did not have, quote-unquote, "the authority to do what they did" then I would think the contract between the parties would be [null and void?].

Robert Stoldal:

02:07:55

Myron, I think it's incumbent upon the public lands, specifically the state museum administrative to alert the potential person or company that wants to lease the facility, that there is an Attorney General's opinion that is out there that could impact their agreement and potentially make it null and void. I think that's due diligence on us alerting them in advance that there is an Attorney General's opinion that's pending that could change the agreement they're signing. Otherwise, I think it would put the

state in some jeopardy by not telling a potential leasee that their deal could be null and void.

Myron Freedman:

02:08:46

For the record, Myron Freedman. Noted Chair.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

02:08:50

Mr. Chair, Anthony Timmons for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

02:08:53

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

02:08:54

Mr. Chair, I see where you're going with this. Again, this is Anthony Timmons for the record. I believe under NRS, the Board of Museums and History has the right to administer facilities of which I would consider the rail's facilities, at least for what we have. So I'm kind of surprised at this, as you are as well, that this hasn't come before the board because it involves leasing technically of the rails.

Robert Stoldal:

02:09:21

Yeah, I'm surprised that they're ignoring the rails and just using the ground underneath as the motivation for proper claims to get involved. All right, further comments? I think we're good. We've got this. Now, 10:30, normally we would take a break but we've already taken a break. I think we should move on. Myron, unless there's more, we could move on to 13.

Myron Freedman:

02:09:48

Please.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:09:50

All right, let's move on then to agenda item 13, board policies. All the items listed are for possible action unless otherwise noted. Item 13A, board policy. This is not a draft. This is something that the board adopted at its last meeting but there was some discussion by the museum administration that they wanted to discuss this a little bit further. Michelle, is there anything you want to add? Otherwise, we'll throw it to-- go ahead, please.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:10:31

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. We had a working group meeting with the museum directors and curatorial staff and those involved in the accession process, Courtney and I because these are two new policies. And there was a lot of discussion at the last meeting about the policy being somewhat of a repeat of the actual collection policy. Couple good things came out of it. First off, I just want to remind the board that deaccessioning is only for objects that are accession. So this policy doesn't pertain to the education collection, obviously not NAGRPA collection, only those materials that have been accessioned by the museums. The museums, collectively, are trying to systematize a collection policy and that's important for this particular policy. And once we get that policy, we want to add it to this policy. What's the terminology, Daphne?

Daphne DeLeon:

02:11:42

Daphne DeLeon, fo the record. We've been incorporated by reference.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:11:47

Right. Incorporated by reference. The collection policy, there are several museums that are accredited. So the best practice for this deaccessioned policy that we're drafting, is to follow the AAM accreditation policy. And one of the things that came up for the deaccessioning was that, when an object is sold, which is basically our purview in the deaccession process, that those funds be put into an account for collections care and management. And so that brought us to another discussion, which I'm turning it back to Daphne here, about creating an account.

Daphne DeLeon:

02:12:36

So let me second. Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Michelle and I had a discussion, and we identified the best way to keep track of these funds that would result from selling deaccessioned items that were accrued by the board or in fiscal year '24 budget show that we create a specific project code in each museum's Cap 55 restrictive funds that states that these are revenues from the sale of deaccessioned items.

Robert Stoldal:

02:13:11

That makes sense. That's great. And of course, we don't have that many items that we deaccession that we put on sale, but it's good to have that clarified and how we have that process. Just to back up with what Michelle said, this does not cover, is limited to coverage this policy to those museums that are currently accredited. This is for all museums that are within the system, within the state system, and the issue is that this policy was adopted in large part by existing museum policies, whether it's Carson City's, or Las Vegas's. This wasn't created on a whole cloth, this was simply adopted as a process that the board would use. So I open this up first to the board members and ask, is having reread the draft, and with the input that we have today, are there any updates or suggestions that we can record now that we could potentially make at an action item at a later meeting? Dan, I see your name up there. Would you like to

speak?

Dan Markoff: 02:14:46

Oh, Dan Markoff?

Robert Stoldal:

02:14:48

Yes.

Dan Markoff: 02:14:48

No, I don't have anything to say.

Robert Stoldal:

02:14:51

Oh, okay. I think your mic's open and the audio clicked in.

Dan Markoff: 02:14:56

It says mute. Sorry.

Robert Stoldal:

02:15:04

Anybody from the board? Anybody? Go ahead.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:15:09

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. As we just discussed, we do want to add in that new restrictive fund, is that the right word, Daphne? Designated fund for the collections management. I want to add that language into this draft, into this policy. And then I also want to check with Anthony, because I know that you have abstained from voting, if there's anything specific that you wanted us to add into this?

Anthony Timmons:

02:15:40

Anthony Timmons, for the record, no. I just looked through it [inaudible].

Michelle Schmitter:

02:15:44

Okay. So I--

Robert Stoldal:

02:15:47

Well, if I can throw this over from the board to the staff, any comments, any suggestions that you want to add to the-- we can bring this up at our next board meeting to add the restricted fund element to it. Is there anything else that you want to have on the record at this point? That's so if we update this meeting, or update this policy at our June meeting. Staff, opening it up to you. Myron?

Myron Freedman:

02:16:17

Myron Freedman, for the record. At this time we don't. We had a meeting with Michelle, and there was some input at that meeting. I think that was very much appreciated. And so the outcome, you took the notes on that, that's leading to this slight change here. So I believe, at this point in time, the staff has entered whatever thoughts they had on the matter. Josh, would you concur with that?

Josh Bonde: 02:16:56

Yes. [laughter]

Robert Stoldal: 02:17:06

I'm not sure if the rest of the board got the-- at least online, got the humor in whatever it was that brought about the smiles. The question was: do you concur with

this, director?

Michelle Schmitter:

02:17:21

[inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

02:17:24

What's that?

Michelle Schmitter:

02:17:25

I mean, Bob, this is Michelle Schmitter, for the record. I have all the notes from the meeting. I listened to what the director said. They feel that it really should be edited down and not be a repeat to the collections policy, and that we've made specific changes about the accessioning thing. So why don't we wait until I fix it, and its presented at the next meeting for them to offer their opinion again, to make sure I captured it.

Robert Stoldal:

02:17:57

Well, it sounds to me like two things are going on, and that maybe we should wait until the museums have adopted a policy. I mean, if they don't have a policy, and they want us to change our policy, it sounds like we got two loose ends, and that maybe the administration should come up with a policy that holds for each of the museums. I mean, we're not suggesting that each museum's going to have a different policy are we?

Michelle Schmitter:

02:18:36

Correct.

Myron Freedman:

02:18:37

Myron Freedman, for the record. We have a working group to establish a collections policy that would be universal. That's in process right now. But as Michelle just reported, there was a meeting with collections people, directors, and curators, and she took notes on that. So there is some refining that they would like to see. And then she has that going into her next draft or we'll see what happens with the next draft. But Bob, I would say that, as we move down this path and the collections policy for the whole division shapes up, we will come back and share that with you. And we'll see how these two things work together or if there needs to be other adjustments, that the board would agree to.

Robert Stoldal:

02:19:30

Well, what I would suggest as a point of discussion is that the board's policy was not drafted in a cigar-filled room. It was based on existing museum's policy. And you're suggesting that those policies are going to change dramatically?

Myron Freedman:

02:19:58

No. I'm not. For the record, Myron Freedman, no. I'm not. But not all of the museums have the same policy. We would like to have a universal policy and then have special adaptations based on the types of collections they're in responsible for.

Robert Stoldal:

02:20:14

That makes sense. So what I would suggest that for the board is to, rather than change its policy and change its policy and change its policy, we wait for the administration to come up with a unified policy and then the board can adopt its existing policy from the policy that is, the administration comes up with, rather than the board taking unilateral action at its June meeting or wherever. Let the administration set the path forward and then the board can adopt from that. Because that's what the board's already done. We've adopted from the existing, the policy, the

procedures a step by step. So if there's a unanimity in the administration, then the board can move forward on that, which would be my recommendation, or thought

comment.

Myron Freedman:

02:21:13

Myron Freedman, for the record. That makes sense. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal: 02:21:17

All right, Michelle, did you want to wrap this up with any closing comments?

Myron Freedman: 02:21:23

No, just that we're going to address that designated fund at the finance committee meeting, hopefully.

Robert Stoldal:

02:21:32

Great. All right then. Let's move on to the next item. It is now 10:41 and this is - just to make sure the agenda reflects that - the item 13A. The word draft is not correct. That policy was accepted, adopted by the board. But the next one is in fact a draft. This is 13B board policy regarding the board's policy on artifact loan. And this came up at our last meeting in December and there was really excellent discussion about this and the board decided to hold off and let Courtney, the point person on this, speak with Myron and directors. And so this is an action item. And I'll turn it over to Courtney to help move this forward.

Courtney Mooney: 02:22:39

Courtney Mooney, for the record. As Michelle noted, we did meet with museum directors and staff in February to go over what was presented at the last board meeting and a lot of the same concerns were voiced again about the reporting requirements. A lot of the staff feel that they already report all of the loans for every quarterly meeting. So they're not sure what additional quarterly reporting requirements would be required. The other thing is that, with-- there is the sticking point with the board having to solve this question to approve all loans. And one of the things is that there are different policies and procedures for each location. So each museum has different policies and procedures and also different software. There's not a consistent software across the board. And so that sort of makes things a little bit difficult with being able to report things. But also the turnaround on some of these loans are very quick. And so typically the director of each museum would have the final say on how, whether or not the loans are approved.

Courtney Mooney: 02:24:03

So one of the examples was like, some of these loan requests are, they have a twoweek turnaround. So it's impossible to get that approved through the board. There were some solutions discussed. As Michelle mentioned, kind of incorporating museum policy by reference. So the board would say, the director was responsible, the director of each museum is responsible for signing off on these things. And there were some criteria discussed, like for example, if an item is valued at over \$5,000 after it's been appraised, then it would go to board approval before it's being loaned. But there's, side issues that go along with that as well. So I think, what we ended at last time was that we were hoping to use this meeting today as kind of an open discussion on how to move forward with resolving some of these. Maybe we can establish some criteria that we can discuss with the museum directors and staff again, and have the item come back again at the next meeting.

Robert Stoldal:

Myron, I presume you were at the meeting with Michelle and Courtney.

02:25:14

Myron Freedman:

02:25:23

Yes.

Robert Stoldal:

02:25:25

Is that kind of-- I'm not questioning Courtney, but does that reflect the highlights of

the discussion?

Myron Freedman:

02:25:33

Are you asking me? I'm sorry. Is that directed to me? Myron Freedman, for the

record, are you asking me if that reflects the discussion?

Robert Stoldal:

02:25:42

Yeah, the highlights of the discussion. Were those the key points?

Myron Freedman:

02:25:45

Yeah, I think Courtney captured it well. And Catherine, are you on the line here? I

don't know if you want to jump in with your recollections and thoughts.

Catherine Magee:

02:26:04

Hi everybody. Catherine Magee, for the record. Yeah, so there is some discussion going on here. There is as Myron mentioned a working group that I'm working on to create the overall collections management policy for the museum. So I think a lot of these questions that are being discussed will actually be taken care of for this process.

Robert Stoldal:

02:26:35

Myron, as I understand correctly, that the loan policy will be as part of the collection

management policy, as is the deaccession.

Myron Freedman:

02:26:47

Myron Freedman, for the record. That's what we intend.

Robert Stoldal:

02:26:51

And do you have a time frame? Done in the next 30 days, the next 24 months? What's

the goal? Kind of a goal?

Myron Freedman:

02:27:01

Myron Freedman, for the record. I don't have a solid time frame on that yet.

Catherine, do you want to talk a little bit about the process that you're contemplating

to get this done?

Catherine Magee:

02:27:16

Thanks Myron. Catherine Magee, for the record. So one of the things that we've done and I've requested from all of the museum directors is to appoint people from their staff that will be the point people for this working group committee. And we have that almost all hammered out. What we're going to do is then utilize one of the two approved collections management policies from the credited museums to use as our model. And then we will create an overall collections management policy for all the division museums with the specifications within the overall collections management policy that then each individual museum that might have something specific will have their own procedures and policies in place for their collections. And so for example, the railroad museums have slightly different needs than museums like I have with archival collections, so there's two of us that have library and archive collections. So these specific aspects to a specific museum will then be in the specific museum's policies, but there will be an overarching collection management policy following

Robert Stoldal:

02:28:51

Director, Stoldal for the record, the board has some sort of statutory responsibilities that weaves in and out of these things. What role do you see the board having in the

standard museum and library and archive standards of practice.

development of these policies?

Catherine Magee:

02:29:10

Catherine Magee, for the record. I think we should leave the development of the policies to the professional museum staff. Then the board will be able to read what the museum staff have created with the overall collections management policy and make comments. And then we will work to adapt that. And then as you know in the board policies, it is under your requirement to review the collections management policy yearly. So this will give the opportunity to have your review yearly once you officially accept the policy that we will be working on or that we will create for you.

Robert Stoldal: 02:29:49

Well, I appreciate that, and I'm sure that the professional historians that are on the museum board also appreciate the professionalism that you're putting forward. The question is, will you be dealing with only accession material or state property that is held by the museums?

Catherine Magee: 02:30:12

This is Catherine Magee, for the record. The way I have been reading in the two different policies is that they are differentiated and that that's a discussion that we will be undertaking.

Robert Stoldal: 02:30:26

Right. Because the board was-- I think some members of the board, we were surprised at that the amount of material and the decision about whether to accession or not accession a material, whose responsibility that is left up to, whether that's the director of that museum or there are some oversight by the administrator or the directors can just unilaterally say, "We don't want to accession that, it's just going to become state property." So I think that that would be helpful as well. Myron, throw it back to you. So it sounds like we are in a wait-and-see as far as the board policy in this area, that the board should wait rather than adapt an artifact loan policy. And that it seemed to me that we're putting something off for another year.

Myron Freedman: 02:31:37

Myron Freedman, for the record. I don't think it'll be a year, Bob. Working with Catherine, now that she's made contact with all of the museums, by the next board meeting, we'll give you a schedule for the development of this process, of this policy. Catherine, do you want a ballpark a period of time we'll need to produce this?

Catherine Magee: 02:32:09

Hi, Catherine Magee for the record. I have to say I don't know a ballpark for this. One of the challenges is to get the working group together and find a meeting time. The idea is to do it about every six weeks so we can go over the policy that we choose to update and augment and then review it, and then when we have an opportunity then we would present it first to Myron and the board, as a draft. But getting a critical mass of people together for something this important is a little bit difficult - timing - which we're working on.

Robert Stoldal: 02:32:58

Courtney, then maybe a suggestion is that the board adopt the policy in the June meeting that is really a pared down, but at least there would be a policy and maybe include some of the things that you learned from the meeting, maybe at the \$5,000 and above. And as far as the quarterly report, that's reflected in our board quarterly reports already?

Courtney Mooney: 02:33:28

That's what I understood and I want to stress that there are nuances to a lot of these kind of solutions that were brought up, for example, with the \$5,000 amount. I believe it was Catherine Magee who said that they're not allowed to appraise artifacts. Catherine, you might want to step in if I'm getting that wording wrong. And so there are nuances to a lot of these that would require some additional back and forth. I think personally that what we have attached to the agenda today should not go forward without further discussion.

Robert Stoldal: 02:34:11

Well, the question is-- I mean we can change it and minimize it today. We don't have to adopt the policy as it stands. We can change the language in it today. For example, one of the things that I would expect at a bare minimum. I've gone through our vast board reports and if there's a loan in there somewhere it's very deep in the board packet and haven't been able to find it. What I would suggest is for our next quarterly meeting, if there are-- if the staff is already saying they're reporting to the board on a quarterly basis, let's have a specific segment of the board reports that says, "Here's the loan." If they're already doing it let's make it a highlight in maybe in font above nine point. For some of us that are having challenging reading maybe at least make it

12 points. So that's one of the recommendations that I was hoping we could get today. At least having an element on our board.

Robert Stoldal: 02:35:16

The other one is if we can—I was thinking, would be for the short period of time is set a dollar figure. But more importantly is I would really like to understand how often we are loaning material out of state with a two-week notice. Are we doing that? I mean, how many loans are being made by each museum? Is this a substantial number of monthly, weekly? I mean, are we talking hundreds or thousands? Myron, can you give us some sense of how many loans go out, short-term or long-term, out of the museum system in general?

Myron Freedman: 02:36:07

Myron Freedman, for the record. Why don't I send it over to a museum director who's dealing with this on a more daily basis? Josh?

Josh Bonde: 02:36:16

Josh Bonde, for the record. So we currently have a couple hundred loans out that are active, that we're monitoring through the registrar of our collections managers. They range from short-term, one-day programs at a local elementary school to multi-year loans to each county museum in the state of Nevada, as well as some loans out of state, which are for long-term either research purposes or exhibit purposes, so it really ends. Just to put an example out there, just for the sake of putting it out there, we were approached by the Stewart Indian School and Visit Carson City back in November. They were going to put on an exhibit on the history of Stewart Indian School at the Reno-Tahoe Airport.

Josh Bonde: 02:37:05

We have about a week, two-week turnaround in order to respond to them and put together artifacts to go on exhibit. And it ended up being a fantastic exhibition in the airport and it impacted about 8,000 people a day according to Visit Carson City. But we would have missed out on that opportunity if we had to wait for our next quarterly meeting to get it approved. So each one of these loans is different. Like I said, ranges from research to exhibition to education and we need flexibility in order to execute those.

Robert Stoldal: 02:37:36

So what do you think should be the status? What role do you think the board should play?

Josh Bonde: 02:37:46

Josh Bonde, for the record. If the board just wants to keep a record. If the board wants a report on the number of loans, I think that's reasonable. We can certainly give you a number and maybe a sense for what those-- the nature of those loans. But in terms of executing loans and managing loans, we really need the flexibility at the museum level in order to execute those.

Robert Stoldal: 02:38:06

So you're saying that the board would have no role in loaning steam engines to California?

Josh Bonde: 02:38:14

I think-- Josh Bonde, for the record. If the museum director thinks it's an appropriate use of their collection to send a steam engine to California, I think that should be at the purview of the director.

Robert Stoldal: 02:38:30

Thank you. That really helps clarify the position of the direction, which means that the board has no role in loan policy. Further comments, Michelle?

Michelle Schmitter: 02:38:47

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. Are we also only speaking about accession items again for loan, not the education collection? Correct? For this policy, only the

accession items.

Robert Stoldal:

02:39:05

Right.

Courtney Mooney:

02:39:05

[crosstalk] record, that's how I understood it.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:39:07

Okay.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:39:10

Further comments for the board?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

02:39:12

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. If we are going to do this policy, I'd like to also see if we can-- it specifically says out of state, but from what my

understanding is, is there's a number of collections that are actually provided to the

governor's mansion as well.

?: 02:39:33

[inaudible]. It sat in the capitol.

Myron Freedman:

02:39:37

Oh, it was the capitol?

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:39:41

Feeling of the board online? Any comments? Further comments from the-- Michelle

please.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:39:55

Michelle Schmitter, for the record, I'd like to maybe defer like Courtney's saying, and start with making sure we get a list of all the accession items that are loaned in each of the museum's report on a quarterly basis. Will that work? Just so that we have an

understanding of what the objects we're talking about?

Myron Freedman:

02:40:26

Myron Freedman, for the record. So you would like a comprehensive list of what's

currently on loan.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:40:31

Of accession.

Myron Freedman:

02:40:32

Of accession items on loan, right. That should be doable. I don't see why that's a-that's not doable. What I would suggest maybe is you provide something like that at a particular meeting, and then after that, and Chair, I'll make this point with the director's reports. The additional accession items that can go out on loan can be recorded on a separate tab in their museum reports. So you would have a face, you would have the current kind of what's happening around the globe, and then that would stream in and then you would get the updates in the specific museum reports

from the board.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:41:23

I think that's a good idea.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:41:26

I think it's a starting point, but certainly not the ending point, since no matter how you read the Nevada statutory requirements, it does say at the board's sole discretion. Now how limited that is interpreted by the staff, or how expansive that's interpreted by the board. There is the phrase in the language that says the board has

sole responsibility. So I don't think that it means unlimited by the staff that they can loan out something to the New York Museum of Arts that has a value of whatever. Obviously making this up. So there is some guidelines, there are some parameters within the Nevada statutory responsibility of the board that it has some oversight representing the public. And these are not unilateral decisions that are made solely by

the museum director that there is some responsibility to at least the administrators has to sign off on something over 5,000 or whatever the figure is, and that the board

has some role on that.

Robert Stoldal:

02:42:46

So do we need-- Myron, it almost sounds at this point that we're asking administratively rather than a board policy, administratively that we would get quarterly reports on the items that were loaned, accession items, and that we will delay further discussion of the artifacts' loan policy. Courtney, does that sound all right to you?

Courtney Mooney:

02:43:20

Yep. Yes. Courtney for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

02:43:25

Rest of the board, how do they feel?

Mercedes De La Garza:

02:43:30

Mercedes for the record. This is not an enormous-- I'm assuming this is not an enormous effort on behalf of each museum. I mean it's something you guys track, so it's just something you can offer to us. My fear is micromanaging. I don't want to micromanage what we-- what these people's [inaudible] that's why they're in those positions, and so as a board I don't want to micromanage that, but it would be nice to know if it's not an enormous effort.

Myron Freedman:

02:43:57

Myron Freedman, for the record. So applying consistency to the recording in their regular order in reports, I think can handle this. The challenge comes from I think where a museum has a collections manager. In the state museum in Boulder City, we doesn't have specifically a collections manager. The director's pretty much handling that. Whereas at a state museum in Carson City, he's got several curatorial staff that feed him the information, and will give him the reports so he can then put into the report. And then just for clarity, this idea what the Chair's concerned about is font size, number one. And then number two--

Jan Petersen: 02:44:55

That's valid.

Myron Freedman:

02:44:56

--that is it's tabbed down on its own, so we don't have to go hunting for it. I don't think that's a big deal to make that change in the quarterly report.

Robert Stoldal:

02:45:10

Further thoughts by the board?

Dan Markoff: 02:45:12

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff here.

Robert Stoldal:

02:45:15

Please.

Dan Markoff: 02:45:16

I'm getting the sense that from some of the staff that they don't think that there's a place for the board to be passing on these loans. But what the board does do regularly is pass up on contracts. And a loan is based on a contract. There are certain requirements and I think that's clearly within our purview. I see a place for us in reviewing these things, and it's always good to have a couple extra eyeballs looking at agreements like that. So that's just something I wanted to point out.

Robert Stoldal:

02:45:56

Thank you. And I also think, Myron, that the opportunity that Director Bonde talked about with sort of the last minute thing and the opportunity to have that exhibit, any policy is going to have the opportunity or a statement or an element where timing isit can be an issue, and there needs to be a way to handle those kinds of requests. We'll have to see; I'm going to stand as firm as I can unilaterally simply as a member

of the board, that as a representative of the general public, that the decision to send significant historical artifacts of the State of Nevada out of state needs to have more than a decision by the museum directors. At a bare minimum, it needs to be signed off by the administration, the administrator, and in some cases, it needs to be signed off by-- statued by the museum board. Where those lines are, where those filters are, we need to work out. And that's sort of my-- I guess an editorial opinion, but for whatever reason-- there we go. We lost the video. So we still have Dana. Dana, if you can turn your mic off. Courtney, did you want to add any more on this before we move on?

Courtney Mooney:

02:47:48

Courtney Mooney, for the record. No, I have nothing.

Robert Stoldal: 02:47:51

Okay. So the only thing we're adopting - and we're not voting on it, was just simply a request for the administrations office to supply the board with quarterly reports on accession items that were loaned out. Great. All right, then let's move on, then. It is now 11 o'clock. Is the lunch ready for the folks down there?

Jan Petersen: 02:48:16

No, the lunch lady needs [inaudible].

Daphne DeLeon:

02:48:19

No. Daphne DeLeon, for the record. The lunch delivery will be completed by 11:30

[crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal:

02:48:25

All right, so we'll wait for them to take a break.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:48:32

Bob?

**Robert Stoldal:** 

02:48:34

Please.

Michelle Schmitter:

02:48:34

Michelle Schmitter. I just wanted to ask Myron, in the new policies that are being developed, where you're going to touch on both of these board policies, right? You're going to outline the roles of the staff and the administrator, correct? Because you have certain authorities on these [inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

02:48:55

Correct. Myron Freedman, for the record. And Catherine, you've been recently reviewing the two policies from the state museums, so that kind of approval and authority is built into those policies. So I do think-- and I didn't want to say anything just now, but I do think as this rolls down the road here, I think some of these things will be answered by the collections policy. And now the board has a role of reviewing and approving that. So there will be this-- there will be this internal checks and balances. I think built into that. Yeah, I'm sorry.

Robert Stoldal:

02:49:42

Let me jump back in here. And this is a slight editorial comment. When I had the opportunity to join this board under Governor then Richard Bryant, each of the museums operated unilaterally. They had their own budget policy and procedure and definitions. They had their own collection management policy and procedures. Each one of them operated differently than the other museum. And while you can certainly see some uniqueness in the Railroad Museum compared to the State Museum or the Historical Society, there were just some ethical and budgetary and other policies that needed to be handled by each museum. And what occurred then was about a threeyear process that ended up to where the budgets were all the same. The definitions of the budgets were all the same. The way they handled the donations were all the same. The collection management policies began to be-- at least have similar codes.

Robert Stoldal: 02:50:58

And during that process we lost two museum directors. And it was an awkward time for the systems. But it brought the systems under to where there was a best practices for each of the facilities. And I think that that's what we're simply trying to move forward here through the best practices is-- it also goes for what software we're using. Each museum was using, as they were, sort of their own software system and communication was very difficult. So we've made a lot of progress in the last few years. So as we move forward, I just want to keep that in mind as we do that. Let's move on then to 13C board policy. Anthony, if you want to move us forward on this.

Anthony Timmons: 02:52:00

Sure, Mr. Chairman. Anthony Timmons for the record. Speaking of moving forward, Mr. Chairman, the membership committee is proud to bring this forward; the membership policy. And it looks like the C1 policy that was provided-- looks like it was back in 2011. I just noticed that, so it looks like it may be a little out of date. I was trying to compare the two. But a meeting of the membership committee took place, and the recommendation of the committee is brought before you in the item that actually has the 13C2 on it. So I don't know if that kind of messes up the scheduling. Is that okay? It says the policy's supposed to be C1.

Myron Freedman:

So that was emailed? Myron Freedman, for the record. Those were emailed?

02:52:46

?: 02:52:58 They were emailed out and stuff.

Myron Freedman:

So the old membership policy was emailed out as well as the changes. So everybody should have gotten that. Everybody got those by email? Yeah. Does that answer your

question?

02:53:01

Anthony Timmons: 02:53:17

I think so. And thank you for finding [inaudible]. Again, Anthony Timmons, for the record. Let's talk about E1-- I'm sorry, C1, review and propose edits to the policy for possible action. The membership committee would like to recommend to the Board of Museum and History the following changes: one being, increasing the prices and consolidating the levels of membership. So the first one is to increase the price of the individual membership from 35 to 45. And Ironically, if you look back to the policy that was provided that was from 2011, it's been a good 12 years since there's been an increase in pricing.

Myron Freedman: 02:54:02

Myron Freedman, for the record. I believe the date had not been updated. It was reviewed, I think in 2020.

Anthony Timmons: 02:54:12

This one I think is '19 and this one says '11. They look different to me. Anyway, I'm going to go off the one that says that it was adopted 12/2019, so increasing the price of individual membership to 45 from 35, family--

Robert Stoldal: 02:54:29

Anthony, I'm sorry. Can we all make sure that we're on the same, because I agree with you; the policy for the Board of Museums and History, it should be the ones in front of you that it's dated up at the top 12 of 2019. Are we all on that same page.

Anthony Timmons: 02:54:45

Correct.

2 22 - 4 4

?: 02:54:46 Yes.

Myron Freedman:

Robert Stoldal:

02:54:46

Great. Thank you.

02:54:48

Anthony Timmons: 02:54:52

Again, Anthony Timmons, for the record. So, increasing the price of the individual membership from 35 to 45, family from 60 to 75, and sustaining from 100 to 250. It will consolidate the memberships, making them easy and systemwide by reducing and eliminating the senior, student, contributing, patron, and benefactor memberships. Now that being said, it also gives leeway to the directors of each museum to discount an individual membership for whatever is particular for their market. For example, Dr. MacMahon and I were speaking, they have a volunteer membership at the museum that they would like to preserve and that's very easily preserved. They just discount the price of the individual membership and call it a volunteer membership. They can put a red dot on it, a star on it, whatever they want to do for their particular museum.

Anthony Timmons: 02:55:52

Let's say they want to do another discount, they can do it as well. They just need to use a bucket, and we'll provide each bucket the recommended guidelines of what we recommend for what type of discounting they can do so that we can measure the profitability and the return on investment of the memberships. This membership policy would also establish a system-wide membership. We've run into situations where different museums have different cards. They look different. It's kind of confusing to the museum staff to determine whether it's a valid card or not a valid card, and this would have Seagull system-wide membership cards, similar to those issued by the National Park Service. So they'd be issued, they'd be plastic cards, they'd have an identifiable image on the front, so that regardless of the museum you go to, it's easily identified as a membership card.

Anthony Timmons: 02:56:47

This policy also removes the requirements of the quarterly, which updates that information because the quarterly is going to be changing its policy as to how it's done. It will no longer be a benefit underneath the membership policy. Let's see. Yeah, exactly. It's going to look similar to that one. So Jan has hers. It's going to be a plastic card and it will have some sort of a picture either of a train or maybe one of the dinosaurs that we have or who knows what. We can make it whatever image we want featured for that year so that when you go in, "Oh, it's the picture of the train." You have the current year's card. You can identify us very easily.

Anthony Timmons: 02:57:39

Last but not least, trying to see real quick if there's any other significant changes. I cleaned up some of the language in it. I think that's pretty much about it. So again, the membership committee would like to consolidate the memberships down to individual, family, and sustaining, as well as honorary life, change the pricing structure, and again, create some sort of a discount thing so that we can better measure the return on investment of the membership and the revenue that it generates.

Robert Stoldal: 02:58:17

Anthony, let me open it up first to members of the board. Questions? Comments? Let's go with those that are in Carson City first. Doris?

Doris Dwyer: 02:58:30

Doris Dwyer, for the record. This is an operation not a-- when you're raising the sustaining membership, that-- was it because, with the contributing patron and benefactor - were there not very many of them, or? Is this going to be a thing overall for admissions? The raise in the sustaining is going to offset eliminating the other three?

Anthony Timmons: 02:59:03

Anthony Timmons for the record. Really, it's not necessarily about a gain revenuewise. It's just kind of cleaning up all of the different memberships that we had. We're trying to have some consistency to the look and feel of the membership process. Doris Dwyer: 02:59:17 I mean I'm just kind of curious. Were there many \$1,000 benefactors? Were there

many of those system-wide? Or--

Robert Stoldal:

02:59:26

Doris, I think the feedback we got was no. I think Carson City may have had one or two during the public hearing. It just wasn't a consistent-- a significant number. It could be an opportunity we're missing but to answer you question directly, no.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

02:59:52

Anthony Timmons, for the record. Again, it varied by museum. I mean some museums

had more than others.

?: 02:59:58 So they're not all the same?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

02:59:59

No.

Doris Dwyer: 03:00:00 Yeah. It is much fair than [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

03:00:04

Michelle.

Michelle Schmitter:

03:00:04

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. Anthony, is there going to be a central location for

processing the memberships and making the cards and sending them out?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:00:15

Anthony Timmons, for the record. To be decided.

Robert Stoldal:

03:00:19

Yeah. This is strictly, I think, cleaning up the next step that we would have to statewide. But this sort of cleans up a lot of the outdated material. Anybody, any board member online that would like to jump in with a comment? Seeing none, any

further members of the board in person at Carson City?

Dan Markoff: 03:00:50

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff.

Robert Stoldal:

03:00:52

Please, go ahead.

Dan Markoff: 03:00:53

Yeah. I was wondering why are they doing away with the quarterly?

Robert Stoldal:

03:01:01

Dan, I'm certainly like Catherine. But they're not doing away with the quarterly-

Dan Markoff: 03:01:06

No. I mean, as a benefit of membership.

Robert Stoldal:

03:01:09

Well, they're simply moving at-- each of the museums was sending, I believe, it was \$10 or \$20 from their membership. They were sending that money to the Nevada Historical Society in Reno too to fund that. That money is now staying with each of the museums rather than sending it to the Historical Society. And the Historical Society is looking to move forward and being an online service and change the name from The Quarterly to The Q and having one publication a year. And if you join the Historical Society you will have that. Secondly, if you want to get the Historical Society

or access to The Q, you'll be able to pay an extra fee.

Dan Markoff: 03:02:02

So it would be more on a subscription basis for it?

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:02:06

Yes.

Dan Markoff: 03:02:08

Okay.

Robert Stoldal: 03:02:10

But again, that money was being sent, \$20 was being sent to help support The Quarterly. And now The Quarterly has come up with a plan where they're going to be able to unilaterally do that by rather than printing thousands of copies, they'll do it once a year and go online which will make it more accessible. And they'll be able to add material to it on a regular basis, not just each Quarterly. But I think Catherine could handle and answer that better than I could.

Dan Markoff: 03:02:45

Okay.

Anthony Timmons:

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, again, for the record.

03:02:47

Please.

Robert Stoldal: 03:02:50

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Anthony Timmons: 03:02:51

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I guess, the last statement. I would like to thank committee member De La Garza for help on this project as well as the Chair who also attended the meeting and the directors for their inputs. I really appreciate everybody's help in getting it to this stage. So I just wanted to add that on the record.

Dan Markoff: 03:03:13

Mr. Chair, let me just ask one further question. I would like to know how this new plan would affect the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway and the Friends of the Railroad Museum in Carson City.

Robert Stoldal: 03:03:26

Well, Dan, I think now is an appropriate time. We had an email that came in earlier and I can read the email to you, "Chair Stoldal, and members of the board. I write to you publicly to express my belief that your proposed actions today regarding the increasing of membership fees and the lessening of benefits afforded for volunteer work on the behalf of museum within Nevada. That the changes in the membership fee and to quote "lessening" of benefits will create dissatisfaction amongst volunteers, especially those at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Boulder City. The belief is that volunteers, the work that they do shouldn't be for the, quote, "price of admission" as well as the price of print readership as well as the price for occasional or immediate family members." This is from Larry Hamilton. He's one of the volunteers with the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Boulder City. In conclusion, he says, "The volunteers that commit a minimum of 100 hours of service at each year should pay no fees, either to the friend or to the membership at the two Nevada State Railroad Museums, no fees for the access to the crane rides or for the immediate family." And those are the highlights of what Mr. Hamilton said, and they are an official part of the record.

Dan Markoff: 03:05:14

Could I ask Dr. MacMahon what his feeling is, or Dan Thielen on how it'll impact them from the administrative standpoint?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:05:27

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. In talking over some of the proposed changes with board member attendance, I think some of the initial concerns that our current organization had, particularly how it will affect their bylaws could be prevented through the use of this special fund and allowing to keep that specific membership category. That might also alleviate some of the concerns over an increase in fee, particularly when so many of our members are volunteers. We have over 100 volunteers who are members and so that fee increase is significant to the-- a lot of them are retirees and on fixed incomes, and so any time we talk about a fee increase, there is, obviously, concern. But if we're going to have this ability to do a reduced fee amount for volunteers or to capture that in some way, shape or form, I do think that will help alleviate that. But I obviously can't speak for the Friends or on their behalf,

so they're actually holding their meeting simultaneously now and we'll get to see what happens based on what the board decides [to pick?].

Robert Stoldal: 03:06:45

Anthony, the question of discounting fees, is this unlimited?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:06:53

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. My understanding, and correct me if I'm wrong with attendance, is that it will be an allocation of a certain amount that museum directors would be empowered to do at their discretion and once those funds are depleted, they're depleted.

Anthony Timmons: 03:07:10

Anthony Timmons, on the record. There could be some flexibility there. Again, we're going to look at the profitability and the return on investment of the membership, but again, in my opinion, and as Dr. MacMahon mentioned, this actually gives the directors a little bit more leniency or leeway to be able to provide those benefits to their volunteers. So even though it sounds like it's more restrictive because we only have individual, family, etc., etc., it gives them the flexibility, and Dr. MacMahon and I talked about it. He can put a gold star on the individual card and call it a volunteer card if he wants. And it seems like that'll hopefully work for the needs of the Friends.

Robert Stoldal: 03:07:51

So let me ask you a question, again, does each director is unlimited that they can discount the fees?

Anthony Timmons: 03:08:01

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. Daphne DeLeon and I talked about this. We refrain from using the word "unlimited" at this point, but we're going to ask the-- it's almost like a comp account at a casino. It kind of adds this unlimited potential to it, but we're going to ask each director to come up with a budget of what anticipating will be the discount budget. And we'll let them do it, and if it runs out and we need to extend it, that would be a decision of the board.

Robert Stoldal: 03:08:35

Let me ask you a question then, maybe Anthony or Doc MacMahon knows. How many non-member volunteers are there?

Anthony Timmons:

03:08:58

Give me just one moment to do the math, please.

Robert Stoldal: 03:09:02

I'm sorry.

Anthony Timmons:

03:09:06

Robert Stoldal:

03:09:16

Anthony Timmons, for the record. Dr. MacMahon would like to do his statistical measures. He's cranking out his slide rule and his abacus, coming up with the number.

The reason I ask is we talk about the volunteers, but there're two separate groups of volunteers. There's the volunteers that belong to no-members, which is, they don't have to. If you want to be a volunteer in the State of Nevada, you don't have to join a group. But I'd say the last I heard was, all but one or two volunteers at the Nevada State Museum in Boulder City were members of the Friends Group. And that there were only one or two that were not members. I mean, so are we talking about dozens, or just one or two, and we're setting a policy for one or two people?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:09:58

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. There is only, to my knowledge, one volunteer at the museum who is not a member of the Friends of Nevada Southern Railway. We have 137 volunteer members, and members who are not volunteers are about approximately 140, that's just a rough approximation. So over half the membership of the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway are volunteers.

Robert Stoldal:

03:10:24

And so that means only one person is impacted by the issue of not being a member of the Friends, which gives them all the benefits of the state museum system. So when you join the Friends-- am I getting that right, and or are there three groups? Are those that join the Friends but don't join the museum system, are there three separate groups there, Dr. MacMahon?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:11:02

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The way you're describing it, there would be two groups. The members of the Friends receive all the same benefits as all other museum members do. And the volunteers who don't join the Friends are not considered members of the museum system and therefore do not get the benefits associated with it.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:11:23

So theoretically, you would then only have to give one special pass to that one volunteer.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:11:30

Christopher MacMahon for the record. That's incorrect. It would be the 137 that

would be impacted, not the 1.

Robert Stoldal:

03:11:42

So would you see giving any discounts to 137?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:11:48

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Our museum would not be possible without our volunteers and I would not feel comfortable doing what would amount to doubling their current membership fee. They currently pay a \$20 fee for volunteer, rather than the proposed \$40 fee. And so I would prefer to keep it at that rate if at all possible. I don't like the fact that our volunteers have to pay to begin with, but I mean, you get the membership benefits that accompany with it, so I understand. There's also fees that are owed, a company money membership program like this, so I understand the necessity for it. So to kind of just do the rough math here, we're talking a little over \$2,000 in deductions to keep it at that \$20 rate.

Robert Stoldal: 03:12:41

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:12:56

So if I understand correctly, what your plan is, if this goes forward, that all the members of the Friends group, who are volunteers, you would reduce their rate.

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That's the correct-- that's how you would work it under this proposed policy, is that we would have a fund that we can offer discounts from, and my intention as director with the discretion that would be given to me via this policy, would be to discount a specific volunteer rate so that both the volunteer category that the bylaws for the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway are run off of would remain intact, and they would not have to change their bylaws as a result of this policy. But as well as to acknowledge the hard work that all of our volunteers put in.

Robert Stoldal:

03:13:42

Is there a number of hours that they have to-- in order to get the discount?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:13:48

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. So you have a volunteer membership category that Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway require that a volunteer do a

minimum of 10 hours a month.

Robert Stoldal:

03:14:02

So if somebody didn't meet that 10 hours a month, are you still giving them a benefit?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:14:10

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That something we would have to look at as far as moving forward with this policy. My personal opinion - but I would have to talk to their board about this - my belief is anybody that's volunteering with the museum

is giving something back to the museum. There should be a benefit associated with that. If that's a discounted membership rate, then we shouldn't discredit their service to the museum because every contribution matters.

Robert Stoldal:

Anthony?

03:14:46

Anthony Timmons:

03:14:49

Anthony Timmons, for the record. Again, that's the discretion that we would be providing to the directors to avoid micromanaging up. Again, they'll have revenue targets, revenue goals, be accountable for the revenue but if they decide to discount it, that would come out of the bucket. To me personally, Mr. Chairman, \$20 in is better than 0. So I'd rather take the \$20 in as opposed to 0, so. For me, it's a win-win situation. But Mr. Chairman, I would like also give in a word to Mr. Thielen to provide his perspective as well.

Robert Stoldal: 03:15:29

Just a quick comment. I think you're right. We need to hear from the Carson City as well. But when we have a statutory responsibility, it's not micromanaging.

Dan Thielen: 03:15:47

This is Dan Thielen, for the record. It's going to be difficult to administer with the different categories in the discounts but it's absolutely workable. We understand the goals and what this is trying to achieve and make it work.

Anthony Timmons: 03:16:10

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. Mr. Thielen, are there special categories similar to what Dr. MacMahon has that are present at your facility as well?

Dan Thielen: 03:16:24

Dan Thielen, for the record. No, we don't have that type of category, but we do have students and we do have other things that sometimes come into play. We recognize that our revenues from membership just about cover the cost of managing the program. They're getting software in place to help manage our volunteers, but we feel that it's about 20 years delayed in its adjustment, so we'll make it work.

Anthony Timmons: 03:17:01

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. And by the way, one that did come up quite a bit when we had our meeting was an issue around senior passes. Again, I want to stress that the individual directors have the ability to discount an individual pass, if they want, and give it to a senior. What we're doing is just we're eliminating the senior pass and just kind of consolidating the different types of membership.

Robert Stoldal: 03:17:30

So is there a reporting function under the policy that each museum director has to report on the number and types of discounts?

Anthony Timmons: 03:17:43

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record. Daphne DeLeon and I were just talking about that this morning. And I think we're getting closer in the process to be able to report those numbers on the basis, again, that reporting will be streamlined. We don't have as many passes to track as we used to in the past.

Robert Stoldal: 03:18:03

The other question that I had is while this policy gives you the membership and you're allowed to attend each museum and you get the discount at the store, but unless you join each museum, you don't get their newsletter or on their mailing list when they have programs, and so forth. How are we handling that? I mean, as it now stands I think I'm a member of at least five or six museums, so I'm in touch with each museum and get their programs. The Historical Society has some fantastic programs, as does Carson City, but unless you are a particular member you're not included in the alerts, the newsletters, the special things that go on at each museum. How are we dealing with that, or do people have to join every museum in order to be in their program loop?

Anthony Timmons: 03:19:05

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. My point of view is once you join one you join all. And I'm sure I'm going to defer to the directors, but I don't think they would have issues putting you on the mailing list, I don't think, if you want to be on the mailing list. But again, I'm going to let them comment on that.

Robert Stoldal: 03:19:23

Myron, what's--?

Myron Freedman: 03:19:27

Myron Freedman, for the record, well, all of this kind of points towards giving the museums support with some kind of centralized management of membership, with the exception of the railroad museums because of the exceptional nature of what they do. So to take care of things like that, so we could have-- because right now as I think about it, and the directors can chime in on this, how would we make sure that someone who is joining the Lost City Museum that that membership is now made known to all the other museums so they can be added on? And it'd have to be-- I think it would have to be more of a centralized approach. So that's something to-- if the board is interested in that, we can develop an approach like that. At least, [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal: 03:20:36

Dan.

Dan Thielen: 03:20:37

Dan Thielen, for the record. And the converse is going to be very cumbersome and we're going to have to work through that, where a friend's group established his own membership and then reports back to the central membership. So currently, he issued and that person can be recognized at Boston, if there is some administrative burden that we know is going to come.

Myron Freedman: 03:21:06

Yeah. But it seems to me, Chair, Myron Freedman, for the record, as you were describing how museums have evolved over the years, particularly regarding things like collections policies and things like that. Maybe this is something we need to take up in order to really make this work on a statewide basis, working with the people that Brenda has brought in to help with social media content and promotions and our public relations. We're still kind of getting the lay of the land with making sure they're getting what they need from each of the museums. This would help consolidate-- I think, as well, to make sure that communication became more seamless. And so those staff members who work for all of the cultural agencies, I think, could do a more effective job for the museums as well if they had that single point of contact, as it were.

Robert Stoldal: 03:22:12

I think there's real opportunity there. I mean, and maybe the two Friends groups of the Railroad, that's a separate-- the newsletter from Carson City is just outstanding. I mean, it has tremendous information and not just on programming, but on the artifacts and so to speak in Carson City. On the other hand, the Historical Society in Reno and Carson City and in Las Vegas, when they have programs, it would be nice if we all got them. Now, I don't mind joining each museum, but it would be nice-- and maybe, as you say, we need to look forward and centralize the membership out of the administrator's office, so a newsletter goes out alerting what goes on rather than having six or seven different ones. That, to me, falls under membership. I need to know what's going on at my museum. I need to know what's going on in my membership museum systemwide. Anthony, is there a way we can add an element there? Or are we just talking here about admission and store benefits?

Anthony Timmons:

03:23:37

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. I can't remember. I think it is the Boulder City Museum where the Friends Group is adopting the new software. Oh. I had the wrong museum. Darn, so close. So that is what I would like to get to. So I'm hoping that's going to be a pilot project. That's something that the entire museum system could look at down the road. But again, baby steps first, Mr. Chairman. So close. I thought it was Boulder City.

Dan Thielen: 03:24:13

You were thinking cutting edge. It would explain a lot [laughter] [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

03:24:18

All right. Let's walk around and each of the board members, first in Carson City, you have the board policy that the membership committee is proposing, the changes with the fees and the language. And this is really a minor point. And Myron, really to you or to Harry Ward, is the membership a committee or a subcommittee?

Myron Freedman:

03:24:49

[inaudible] [crosstalk]. Myron Freedman, for the record, it's a standing committee, is it not?

.

03:24:56

Yes.

Myron Freedman:

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:24:57

Yeah.

Robert Stoldal:

03:24:58

Then I would change the language, Anthony. And the last word says "review". Change

it to "membership committee" rather than "subcommittee."

Anthony Timmons:

03:25:12

Anthony Timmons, for the record, duly noted.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:25:19

While they're reading, any member that are on the-- member of the board online that

would like to make a comment or suggest a change or anything?

Dan Markoff: 03:25:32

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff here.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:25:34

Please.

Dan Markoff: 03:25:35

I'm thoroughly confused by some of these things. It seems like Dr. MacMahon said, that people are donating a minimum of 10 hours to volunteer to get the volunteer benefits. Plus, this report wants to increase the fees for membership. So it seems to me that all the volunteers are doing is paying to work. If we just use a minimum wage, that'd be \$150 that they had to pay through work, plus the \$40 for membership. Even if it's waived, it's still a substantial investment of their time. The museums, both Carson City and Boulder City benefit immensely from the volunteer work. And it seems to me that putting added burdens is going to discourage people from volunteering or discourage those who already are. Even if it does--

Robert Stoldal:

03:26:44

Okay. Dan, let me kind of correct you a little bit. Right now the fee is \$35. We're suggesting raising that to 45. But Dr. MacMahon would have the benefit ability to

reduce that to \$20.

Dan Markoff: 03:26:59

And I understand that. That means you're paying \$20 plus \$150 worth of 10 hours of

work.

Robert Stoldal:

03:27:07

No, no. Right now they're paying 35.

Dan Markoff: 03:27:11

I understand that.

Robert Stoldal:

And we're going to reduce it to 20.

03:27:12

Dan Markoff: 03:27:14

I understand that. What I'm saying is, is Dr. MacMahon said that, in order to be a volunteer, you have to put in at least 10 hours of volunteer work. Just figuring that at the minimum wage, the value of it, that's \$150. On top of what they're going to pay for the membership, so the state is making out like a bandit, and the volunteers are

getting screwed.

Robert Stoldal:

03:27:40

I'm sorry. First of all they're not getting screwed. They're getting reduction in what they're paying. And number two, I need to look up on under Webster's dictionary under the word volunteer, and I don't think it includes being paid.

Dan Markoff: 03:27:54

I realize that. I'm talking about the value of their service. When you figure just the minimum wage.

Robert Stoldal:

03:28:06

Then where they're reducing it substantially for volunteers taking what you're saying in consideration. Well, but you're suggesting they should get it for free?

Dan Markoff: 03:28:17

No, I'm not saying that. I'm saying they shouldn't have to pay more than what they are right now.

Robert Stoldal:

03:28:22

No, they're going to be paying less.

Dan Markoff: 03:28:27

Why? Because the director puts a gold star on their card or something?

Robert Stoldal:

03:28:34

The director has the -- he's on an on-site person and he would be able to understand that and the answer is using the word gold star, yes. Dr. MacMahon would be specifically in Boulder City, be able to put the gold star and reduce their fee to \$20.

Dan Markoff: 03:28:57

Well, there was one other point that I had and I'm just trying to remember what it

was.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:29:03

Well, we're not done. We'll come back here.

Dan Markoff: 03:29:06

All right.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:29:08

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. I did get a recommendation. I know we probably have to at least approve this policy in generalization at this meeting, but I would like to come back. We're missing the director discount language in here, and it was brought to my attention by my fellow board members. So something we do need to add to the policy.

Robert Stoldal:

03:29:33

Anthony, Stoldal, for the record-- I'd like to go ahead and improve the work that the committee has done here and I'd like to have a little bit more specific-- dealing a bit with what Board Member Markoff said and, not use the word unlimited, but to be able to set some sort of guidelines for the-- because basically, what we're doing is we're turning over a statutory responsibility of the board to each director to set the price for membership. I think there needs to be a little bit of guidance on how loose that is or if there's any limit. But I think the board-- the work that this board has done, that the Chair-- the committee has done on the membership policy, I would

recommend that we approve it as it stands and then have you come back with maybe in June as part of our budgetary meeting with some change in that.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:30:48

Christopher MacMahon for the record. Mr. Chair, if I may? The concern here is if the board adopts this at this meeting, there's three months where we would not have the ability to offer those deductions. And how many people are going to renew in that three months period? So you're talking about a significant number of people that would be caught in the middle, that would be affected by this change of policy without so-called policy being in place.

Anthony Timmons:

03:31:12

Doesn't start till July.

Robert Stoldal:

03:31:13

So in the next 90 days, you know how many people?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:31:20

I don't. Christopher MacMahon, for the record. I think Anthony is saying the policy wouldn't go in effect till July 1st. Okay, so I withdraw my comment. I was not aware

that [inaudible] till July 1st, so I withdraw.

Michelle Schmitter:

03:31:33

Michelle Schmitter, for the record. I move to approve this policy as revised.

Myron Freedman:

03:31:38

Start of July.

Michelle Schmitter:

03:31:40

[crosstalk] start July 1st.

Mercedes De La Garza:

03:31:42

Mercedes, for the record. Second.

Robert Stoldal:

03:31:45

We have a motion, and we have a second. Open it up to further comments from the

board. Open it up to further comments from staff.

Dan Markoff: 03:31:57

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff here again. I was slow to get on the trigger here for my unmute. As long as this is going to be amended in some way by the committee, why don't we just postpone the whole thing and see what the final draft looks like. I would move that we table it.

Robert Stoldal:

03:32:22

Well, we have a motion, and we have a second to approve. Further comments from the board? Open it up to the general public. Beyond the letter from Mr. Larry Hamilton, is there any additional comments from the general public that the board has received or staff has received?

Myron Freedman:

03:32:57

Myron Freedman, for the record. I'm not seeing anything on my emails.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:33:03

Mr. Chairman, Kelly Brent is indicating on Zoom they would like to speak.

Robert Stoldal:

Staff, can we?

Christopher

03:33:18

I would think they're waiting on you to acknowledge them, Mr. Chair. It's Kelly Brent.

MacMahon: 03:33:22

Jan Petersen: 03:33:38 [inaudible] just said--

Doris Dwyer: 03:33:39

Can you call on them?

Myron Freedman:

Chair, he's asking to be recognized.

03:33:42

Jan Petersen: 03:33:48 [inaudible]. Now he's gone. Robert Stoldal:

03:34:03

Director MacMahon, are you in direct contact with this person?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:34:09

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. I'm just managing the computer that has

Zoom on it. An individual by the name of Kelly Brent was asking to speak. They needed your permission as the chair of this meeting to recognize them for comment.

Robert Stoldal:

03:34:22

I'd like to recognize the person for comment.

Myron Freedman:

03:34:28

So Kelly, go ahead and unmute.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:34:34

I see the name there with the mic is still muted at that end.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:34:42

Kelly Grant, if you still wish to make the comment that's been recognized at this time.

Myron Freedman:

03:34:51

Chime in if you [inaudible]. [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal:

03:35:00

Kelly, go ahead, please.

Myron Freedman:

03:35:04

One moment, Chair. He's actually in the building.

Jan Petersen: 03:35:13

Robert Stoldal:

03:35:22

Oh. Myron, are we waiting for this person to come up the stairs to come in person?

Myron Freedman:

03:35:27

I think so. I'm not exactly sure. Is that right?

Mercedes De La Garza:

03:35:32

Yes.

Oh.

Myron Freedman:

03:35:33

Yes. [crosstalk]. I don't know why he didn't chime in on the Zoom since his name was

up there. I don't know.

Mercedes De La Garza:

03:35:41

And then it disappeared because so much time elapsed.

Myron Freedman:

03:35:44

Oh. Is that what it is?

Jan Petersen: 03:35:45 Or I think he signed out.

Myron Freedman:

03:35:46

Oh okay. So he [inaudible] so far? He's been [crosstalk]. For your information, Myron Freedman for the record, Kelly Brent is the membership manager for this museum

and the coin press program manager. [crosstalk] and recently he was an

administrative assistant for a brief time in our office. We do miss him. He's the one that put together the orientation material that we'll eventually share with you as well.

Jan Petersen: 03:36:16 Nice.

Robert Stoldal:

So is he speaking as a private person or any representative of any nonprofit?

03:36:17

Myron Freedman:

03:36:23

I think he's probably going to speak as a manager of the membership program here at the museum. No, it's not there? All right. I take it all back. [laughter] We don't know

where he is.

Robert Stoldal:

03:36:45

Harry Ward, any advice in this area?

Harry Ward: 03:36:51

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. One, it's up to you, Mr. Chair, as far as if you want anyone to speak during this time period. My understanding is that we have a motion, we have a second, and you've opened it up to discussion between the board members. You and you alone have the discretion to say, "Okay, I'm going to open it up to quote-unquote, "public comment" or I need some input from staff." So Mr. Chair it's really up to you. My understanding is we have a motion--

Robert Stoldal:

03:37:28

Okay. Well let me-- I think that we've made two efforts to-- let me go back to it so I

can see everybody.

Myron Freedman:

03:37:43

Oh, wait. There's a no.

Mercedes De La Garza:

03:37:45

Sorry, my mic isn't working.

Myron Freedman:

03:37:47

Oh, this microphone isn't working. [crosstalk].

Unknown: 03:37:52 He's not done yet.

Myron Freedman:

03:37:53

Oh, he's probably in his house. I was at his house.

Robert Stoldal:

03:37:57

All right. So there was a little bit of crosstalk there. Is the gentleman coming up or is

he online?

Mercedes De La Garza:

03:38:07

Mercedes, for the record. His note said, in the chatbox that his mic wasn't working

and he's going to pass on his comment.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:38:14

All right. Great. We have a motion. We have a second. We've heard from the board. We've heard from the public, the staff. Call for a vote. All those in favor say aye.

?: 03:38:24 Aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

03:38:25

03:38:29

Aye.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Those opposed?

Dan Markoff: 03:38:30

Nay.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

And who was the no?

03:38:33

Dan Markoff: 03:38:35

Dan Markoff.

Robert Stoldal:

03:38:38

Motion carries with the Chair voting in favor and one no vote. And I think that goes with that. For some reason, Dan, you're still up. So I think that, Anthony, if you can come back to the next meeting with some sort of guidance on how each museum director would be able to initiate and use the policy to provide a discount. And is the

discount specific, or is it generic in the sense that it can be a 10% discount or a 50% discount or 0? A museum director can say, "No fee at all"?

Anthony Timmons:

03:39:33

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. Again, a budget will be provided to the membership committee, approved through the membership committee from each one of the directors. They'll then be presented to the board, so they will have budget guidelines as to how much they're able to use their discount. And my anticipation, Mr. Chairman, is that it is at their discretion.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:39:58

Okay. So if I understand right, but we'll hear more of this officially at the June meeting is that the museum directors were proposing that they have the authority to give memberships away for free.

Anthony Timmons:

03:40:15

Mr. Chairman, within their-- and this is Anthony Timmons, for the record. Within certain guidelines, because maybe they have a special event and that becomes an option prize or a door prize, or maybe they give it away for a school group or something. Again, I trust the directors will work within their budget, and I want to give them the ability to make sure that we hit our numbers as a board which is our statutory requirement, that we generate revenue from memberships while giving them the flexibility to market them as they wish. Again, Mr. Chairman, I'm speaking on behalf of myself, personally, as a membership committee member. This, again, would have to be discussed by the committee and approved by the board, Mr. Chairman.

Robert Stoldal:

03:41:06

All right.

[silence]

Robert Stoldal:

03:41:20

Back in part of the museum membership committee is 13 to review. And the proposed change is to create a single system-wide membership including pricing and initial membership benefits.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:41:39

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. And I may, subset to the policy we just passed, we propose a standard, system-wide membership that would cover all the museums.

Robert Stoldal:

03:41:53

And is there a process? I mean, how do I join? Do I join online? Do I join in person? Do we not already have a single system-wide membership?

Anthony Timmons:

03:42:11

Mr. Chairman, we have a system-wide membership, but we do not have system-wide membership cards. Again, this is Anthony Timmons for the record. It seems that every museum has different membership cards. So the proposal, Mr. Chairman, is to have one single membership card that is relevant to all of the system museums.

Robert Stoldal:

03:42:31

Okay. So this policy then only deals with the card itself, no process in creating-because I know we're trying to include that with an online store, the website that we include the membership. Is this the same thing?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:42:57

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. In consultation with the folks around here, they believe that it was covered already; the policy which was just approved.

Robert Stoldal:

03:43:13

So there is no--

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:43:13

But--

Robert Stoldal:

03:43:14

You're saying there is no two?

Anthony Timmons:

03:43:16

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record, it appears that there isn't. It looks like it was covered in the policy, which states that it would be a system wide

membership. So no need for the second.

Robert Stoldal:

03:43:28

All right. I promised that we would take a break at 11:30. It is now 12:02. So let's go ahead and take a break. If it's all right, we'll come back at 12h30 following lunch.

Please stop the recording.

Myron Freedman:

03:43:45

[inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

03:43:47

To all the Nevada Board of Museums and History for Thursday, March 9, 2023. Back in

order. We left off at agenda item, I believe it was 15.

Daphne DeLeon:

03:44:05

14, Chair. This is Daphne DeLeon, 14.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

03:44:08

I [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

03:44:09

We are at agenda item number 14, which is the standing-- no, excuse me. Board policy. Well, the agenda is not exactly correct in the sense that this is 14A, which is a review. And this is for action. The museum and history admission and train fee policy, 1A2, is a draft of a rental policy for fundraising. Myron, that has your name next to it.

Myron Freedman:

03:44:56

Myron Freedman, for the record. Chair, you were wanting to discuss rental policy. And so after talking with directors of the train museums, we thought we would start with what is being used now in terms of making sure that there's a document in place to oversee whatever use is be-- whatever it's being used for this purpose, meaning trains. So that's what this is in your-- that's what's in your packet. So this could be the mechanism for making sure that if we're utilizing the trains for a fundraiser with a group, or even with ourselves, that there would be a-- there would be a approval process in place.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:46:14

Open it up to the board. Everybody take a second to finish their lunch and read over

the document.

Dan Markoff: 03:46:36

Hello, this is Dan Markoff--

Robert Stoldal:

03:46:38

Please go ahead.

Dan Markoff: 03:46:40

The Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City has a contract in place already or at least a pricelist in place already that I saw some time ago. But I don't know that there's any formal contract for an agreement with a person wanting to rent it, rent one of the trains or a memorandum of understanding with the customer.

Robert Stoldal:

03:47:13

Dan, I think there's two different things we're talking about. One is, this is not renting the equipment per se. This is using the equipment bought by the Friends Group. Let me put one first and that is each fiscal year, the board has to approve the fees, proposed fees coming up starting in July the first. Actually, the second item covers the

fees for the coming fiscal year starting July of 2023.

Dan Markoff: 03:48:03 Yeah. What item are we looking at Bob?

Robert Stoldal:

We're looking at item 14 A1.

03:48:05

Dan Markoff: 03:48:11

14 A1.

Robert Stoldal: 03:48:14

It may get confused because the number 14 says standing membership committee, but under that is board policy. And annually we review both policy and the proposal and so this is just for the-- as so in our last December, meeting we adopted the generic policy. And then each year before the June budget meeting, we adopt the coming fiscal year for train rides, just the generic train ride which we under Nevada revised statutes are responsible for setting and then any fund raising efforts or special trains or discounts that each of the Railroad museums wants to put forward. And so you should have two things in your packet; one is a draft of the rental agreement which is something that the board would be adopting for the first time, and then secondly a sheet that are the proposed fees for, I would say it's fiscal 2023. It should be fiscal '24.

Myron Freedman:

03:49:49

March 2023.

2023.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:49:55

Am I reading the right one, Myron?

Myron Freedman:

03:49:58

It's 2023, right? Yeah.

?: 03:50:00

Myron Freedman:

03:50:01

Oh, okay. It's 2023 up at the top of the train ride, fees related fees. This is Myron Freedman. It just shows when they were last approved. And then the request that

was requested for 2023 is in the far-right column.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:50:19

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Because I don't think we ever got to a point where we looked at '23, this has been kicked down the road a couple times. This

would now be for '24.

Myron Freedman:

03:50:30

For '24, okay. So SFY 2023, the requested column, that column. But we did add into

that column for the other events coming up. Is that right?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:50:45

I believe so.

The extravaganza.

Myron Freedman:

03:50:46

Yeah. So this contains kind of two pieces of information. One is what was presented the last time and then if they added onto it, the ones they're hoping to have approved in the coming months, right? That includes which ones, Christopher? The Bunny

Express, that was approved last time, right?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:51:12

Myron Freedman:

The Bunny Express was approved last time. I believe the events upcoming for this quarter, [inaudible] MacMahon for record, would all be in Carson City. And I believe they had an extravaganza or something like that. I don't know if [inaudible] even though their program [inaudible].

03:51:35

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:51:36

Yeah.

Myron Freedman:

The Story Time, is that yours?

03:51:37

Christopher

I don't have what you're looking at.

MacMahon: 03:51:40

Myron Freedman:

03:51:42

I think that's his too. Dan had added on the extravaganza and a Story Time train. He did not have that last time because the Friends Group were not ready to commit.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:51:56

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. We also do a Story Time train but it's captured within the general partnership revenue; there's no specialty for it.

Robert Stoldal: 03:52:05

Myron, I want to get us all on the same page. The document that is on the board

packet, it's up at the top center it says, "March 2023."

Myron Freedman:

03:52:21

Right. And so that is the document that we put the March 2023 on this document because this is the month it's getting updated. And the train rides that are requested are the ones at the very bottom in the special events because the board asked to have these requested in advance. So that's the extravaganza and the Story Time train that will be happening at the railroad museum in Carson City. The other ones, the ones you reviewed the last time, right, those were the ones down in Boulder City and

there were--

Robert Stoldal:

03:53:05

Now, I'm still-- I only have one sheet of paper that was in the board packet, March 2023. Far right-hand corner it says, "FY," the column, "SFY 2023." As I follow that all

the way down to the bottom, is this 2023 or 2024?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:53:32

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Because we have tabled this item for several meetings now, this was what was originally requested for '23, it's now going to be for

FY24, because this item has been tabled multiple times.

Robert Stoldal:

03:53:51

It was tabled once in December because this is a fiscal policy and it comes up during our March meeting. So I want to make sure that I understand and the board

understands, up at the top left, should that say the fiscal year 2024.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:54:14

Christopher MacMahon for the record. Yes. That's correct. These were the fees that

would go into effect July 1, at the start of FY24.

Robert Stoldal:

03:54:22

Okay. And then we follow that all the way down to the very-- or are all of these things, for example, the first one is the Ironhorse Rail \$1,000 in-- Dan is that you?

Dan Markoff: 03:54:42

No, I didn't say anything.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

03:54:45

Daniel.

Dan Markoff: 03:54:48 Which one? Thielen or Markoff?

Robert Stoldal:

03:54:50

Thielen.

Jan Petersen: 03:54:51 Where is he?

[silence]

Robert Stoldal:

Is this entire list 2024?

03:55:04

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:55:12

Christopher MacMahon for the record. So Dan had to take off. He's not back, logged on from lunch yet so he may not be able to answer those questions. I can try to answer what I can but again, I'm not as familiar with processes--

Robert Stoldal:

03:55:27

Okay. Director, let's just stick with you. Let's go down to Nevada Southern Railway. In the very last, second to last column, the one that is now titled 7/1/2024 fiscal year. Is the 400, the 20, the 2000, the 750 and the 500, are those all for this year or for the coming fiscal year?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:55:52

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Director Thielen and I have requested several changes to our different fee structures. So for Carson City, they're requesting a change of fee to the Ironhorse Rail Camp - that's under steam train at the top - changing it to a \$1,000 fee. They are also requesting the change of school groups, students on the motor car, raising from \$2 to \$3. And then in Carson City they are also requesting increased-- I'm sorry, let me take a step back. I'm sorry. Now changing to Boulder City. We're requesting a change from our engineer, from an hour program, from 250 to 400 dollars.

Robert Stoldal: 03:56:44

Christopher, would you just hang on one second? And I'd ask Harry Ward if we canand in future, Myron, if we could have these on two separate sheets for two reasons: one, they're two separate issues; and two, the fine print gets smaller and smaller. So Harry, can we approve these unilateral-- or, separately, or do we have to take this all at one?

Harry Ward: 03:57:12

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. You can separate them. Sure, you have that right to do that. They're on the agenda so it's up to you. Both together or separately is fine.

Robert Stoldal: 03:57:26

Okay. I'd like to separate them so we can take care of the top part of it. Again, the motion would be to approve for the Carson City Railroad Museum for fiscal year 7/1, starting July of 2023, for fiscal year '24. Are there any questions on those items? I thought the board approved the change from 8 to 10 dollars, didn't we?

Mercedes De La Garza: 03:58:02

Yes.

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:58:03

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That's found at special events, I haven't gotten that far yet. If you'd like, I can address a few of the other additional ones that Carson City has requested. They've requested some special events that would be added to those \$10 fees. That would be an extravaganza event. It will be early spring. They've requested a Story Time train that-- again that \$10 event, and then they've also requested one special event with their Friends in December, that would be a special Santa experience. That would be at \$5. It's the requested rate for Carson City. So that would cover all the materials from the Railroad Museum here in Carson City.

Robert Stoldal: 03:58:51

Good. We're going to get back to that because that's not exactly what I see on the order. We're getting ahead of ourselves on the agenda. The first one is item 14 A1, it's the rental policy. I think that's what Myron was talking about, and we sort of got off track. So you have the equipment excavation agreement for renting the facility. I would note that there is a very specific fiscal year '24-- excuse me '23 item here. Myron, we're not approving that, we're simply would be approving the rental agreement?

Myron Freedman:

03:59:32

Correct. This is Myron Freedman, for the record. This is a template and it has the dates in there for something that the Boulder City Museum is already using this for, for their fundraising train. Correct?

Christopher

MacMahon: 03:59:49

Correct. Christopher MacMahon, for the record. At the previous meeting, Mr. Chair, you had requested to see some form of document that would formalize this agreement. And so this is providing that document for you and the board to consider. This is the mechanism that we use at Boulder City. It's a standardized form that's uniform across the railroad museums. The only difference would obviously would be the information pertaining to the specific museum but otherwise all the contractual language is all the same. And the rest of it is simply a fill-in-the-blank based on the organization that is utilizing the train for fundraising.

Robert Stoldal:

04:00:31

So this is, again for the board. We were looking at this even though it's got the Bunny Ride and different information. Don't ignore that because all we would be talking about is the actual adoption of a rental agreement. A question for the board.

Dan Markoff: 04:00:47

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff here. Can you hear me?

Robert Stoldal:

04:00:50

Yes.

Dan Markoff: 04:00:51

How did they arrive at these rates?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:00:56

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The rate is the rate that was set by the board for rental agreements with our Friends organization. So this Is following the fees set

and approved by the board at the--

Dan Markoff: 04:01:10

Yes, I understand that. I'm talking about what was the method by which you arrived at it. Was it comparative with the other railroads or was it just between the Friends and you?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:01:26

I'm not sure I understand your question Dan? Can you--?

Dan Markoff: 04:01:29

Well, let's put it this way. Have you seen, let's say, what the Verde Valley Railroad, or whatever it's called, over in Arizona would charge for a rental of their equipment?

Robert Stoldal: 04:01:42

Dan, let me back up and maybe I can help here. The \$10 fee that is in there, that is the fee that goes back to the general fund. That's a standard fee that the state sets for ticket rides. So if you want to ride on a non-fundraising train, it's \$10.

Dan Markoff: 04:02:05

Oh, I understand that, Mr. Chairman. I'm talking about the locomotive rentals.

Robert Stoldal:

04:02:11

I think the question would be to Christopher is how much does it cost to run these

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:02:26

I can't, and Christopher MacMahon. I can't answer for Carson City. They have their numbers, I don't. For Boulder City, it's roughly \$200 to run down to Railroad Pass and

back. When you'd think about fuel consumption, the wear and tear on the railroad, the ongoing maintenance that needs to be factored in, when you do that it's roughly \$200 per trip. Part of this is also adjusting for-- as Mr. Markoff was asking about, I did look at the rates of other tourist railroad operations and what they charge for similar type programs and adjusted it based on the length of our railroad, the value that the customer would get, and the consideration that they're using historic artifacts. So all those things played into at least in Boulder City how we're arriving at these

calculations.

Dan Markoff: 04:03:20 I'm only asking about Boulder City. Go ahead, Chairman.

Robert Stoldal: So Christopher, this loan agreement doesn't list the number of runs.

04:03:29

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:03:47 in-the-blank form, so if that

Christopher McMahon, for the record. That could be updated and changed. It's a fill-in-the-blank form, so if that's something the board would like to see as part of this, it's very easy to include that.

Robert Stoldal: 04:03:58

The reason I'm getting to that is if there's 10 runs, that's \$2,000. If there's 20 runs, that's \$4,000. The \$10 goes right back to the general fund, so the rest of the expense of maintaining and the wear and tear is something you have to absorb, that the taxpayers have to absorb, so it would be nice to understand how much we're charging to rent these. And the rental fee is only \$10. That goes back to the general fund but it doesn't help maintain the railroad. I need to put one and one together and come up with how much it costs Nevada taxpayers to run these railroads and how much the state is getting in exchange for these trips. I mean, we're going in debit, it seems to me, on every one of these runs.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:04:57

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. If you look at it, it's \$10 per person. So it's a

270-seat capacity, so sold out each run would be \$2,700 at \$10 per person.

Robert Stoldal: 04:05:11

Right.

Dan Markoff: 04:05:12 That goes to general fund.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:05:13

[crosstalk]. That would be 2,700 if you sold out. So you need at \$10 a person, you need to sell a minimum of 25 tickets to make it profitable, which is very easy to do on

our special event trains.

Robert Stoldal:

04:05:26

Well, that money doesn't go to you.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:05:30

In a roundabout way it does, Mr. Chair, because as you're aware, the museum is required to fund itself through the revenues generated from train rides. So when we do special events like this, it brings a larger number of people into the museum that generates revenue that then comes back to the museum that we're able to use in maintenance, in ongoing future programming.

Robert Stoldal:

04:05:55

How does that money come back?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:05:59

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Because the museum is required to pay a certain amount of its budget through the revenues generated by train rides. The way our budget works is we're allocated a certain amount based on projections of revenue generation for the year and then we're allowed to spend when those revenues are generated. So as that money goes into the general fund, it meets the allocation for the museum based on projections of revenue for train ride fees.

Robert Stoldal:

So how much are we projecting for the coming fiscal year?

04:06:30

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:06:36

I have to turn that over to Daphne. She's got the numbers better than I do.

Daphne DeLeon:

04:06:40

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. For train ride fees combined, for Carson City and

for Boulder City, next year it is projected to be a little over \$300,000.

Robert Stoldal:

04:06:56

And for Boulder City?

Daphne DeLeon:

04:06:58

That's Carson City and Boulder City together. They all--

Robert Stoldal:

04:07:02

And for Boulder City?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:07:04

It's for both Carson City and Boulder City--

Robert Stoldal:

04:07:07

I heard that three times now. I'm asking how much for Boulder City.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:07:11

We're about 85% of those revenues, approximately. It's hard to separate them out because on the budget line, they all go into the same budget. It all goes into the same fund. So that's why you hear them listed together, is it's one budget account.

Dan Markoff: 04:07:30

Well, that may be, but we got to have some division as to get an idea how each

museum is doing.

Daphne DeLeon:

04:07:40

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. What I can do is when we have a break, I can step out and go to my office and pull those numbers and report them out if that is so

decided by the Chair.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:07:57

Christopher McMahon--

Robert Stoldal: 04:07:58

Well, I hope you understand how frustrating it is for the board to try and come up with a proper decision of the responsibility it has with limited information on, for example, it was better part of a year and a half ago, we had the director of the museum in Boulder City saying that in essence, the Friends were running the trains into the ground and the equipment was not being maintained and there wasn't enough funds to be maintained. And now we get up to this point and the board doesn't have access to the financial information about the cost. I don't mean to be sound so frustrated, but I'm not ready to take action on these plans. First of all, the document there were-- the fund sheet or the requested, it's not properly written. It's for fiscal year '23 and I'm not sure what numbers we're supposed to approve. Let me turn it over to the rest of the board. Is there any other questions or I'm the only one that has these issues?

Dan Markoff: 04:09:22

Oh, you hit right on what I was driving at, Mr. Chairman. Dan Markoff, for the record.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:09:28

Mr. Chair, if I can hopefully try and address your question. Christopher MacMahon, for the record. So in fiscal year '22, Boulder City generated \$394,657 from ticket sales revenue. Halfway through fiscal year '23, as of December, we have generated

\$252,987 in revenue.

Robert Stoldal:

04:09:53

And Christopher, what does that pay for? Does that pay for your staff? Their salaries?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:10:00

A portion of that goes into salaries, a portion of that goes into our operating fund, a portion of it goes into the ongoing maintenance of care of the right-of-way and the equipment. So again, because we're required to generate our expenses, all of that money generated goes towards all those expenses, including staff.

Robert Stoldal: 04:10:22

And that's a whole topic that I've been railing about for the last couple of years at you; Boulder City needs to be funded on the same level as the other museums. So do you have any sense of how much money we are spending on rolling stock repair?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:10:45

Christopher MacMahon, for the record, our current budget allocation is just shy of 23,000 a year. That's what the legislature has authorized us to spend. We spend every dime of that we possibly can. And we currently have a work program that we're generating to capture the excess fees that we have generated this year because we are beyond our projections for this year. We're bringing in more money than anticipated, and so I've been working with staff to develop a work program. The majority of that money is going back into catching up on maintenance that was deferred during the pandemic because of budget cuts. So we're catching up on that, implementing a regular maintenance program to ensure that everything is done in a recurring manner, and that all maintenance is kept up to date and outgoing.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:11:38

Obviously, there's some expenses like the maintenance of the right-of-way that are going to incur significant costs, as everybody in this knows room knows that right-of-way dates to 1931 when it was originally put in, and a lot of stuff that's at the age of where it needs to be replaced. And so we're looking at-- just take, for an example, railroad types. It's approximately \$83 per tie to replace, with over 3,000 ties per mile. That adds up real quick. We're getting into the millions of dollars of work that needs to be done. And so we're working with division staff. We're working with-- I have a meeting this afternoon with the Governor's Office of Federal Assistance to identify federal grant projects-- infrastructure dollars we might be able to go after. So we're certainly looking at various ways to tackle some of this. As well as monies that would generate through a potential future rail like these, all coming back into the museum to meet this mission of maintaining, preserving and hopefully, doing future preservation projects with the funds that are generated from this.

Robert Stoldal:

04:12:53

I guess the question that I'm asking is whether or not the train rides provide a net to the museum or whether in fact we are losing money on each train ride because of the wear and tear on the equipment, the rolling stock itself, the tracks, the staff and whether or not we need to limit the number of trains and maybe increase the fees so there is not a loss of revenue. But it's hard to deal with these things, these questions, when the board doesn't have the adequate information. Any questions from the board itself?

Anthony Timmons:

04:13:46

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record.

MOU following the fee structure that was crew pipe work.

Robert Stoldal:

04:13:48

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

04:13:49

I'm kind of confused. I'm looking at this agreement. I think it's a great agreement. But I guess the agreement's for the train itself? It's just the train, right?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:13:58

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. So, what this agreement would do is, the board has authorized special events that the Friends can do fundraising as per the MOU agreements. They have set the fee for that as \$10 per person to come back to the state with the remainder to be used as a fundraiser for our print organization. So this agreement puts in place a contractual mechanism to make that possible, that the organization is able to utilize the train for that fundraising event as set out in the

Anthony Timmons: 04:14:37

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. So we can authorize the train but we can't authorize the tracks because we've learned earlier today that the tracks are administered by Division of Parts. So another contract needs to done with the Division of Parts because we don't have the administration of the rails. That's what we learned earlier today. Is that right? Because we talked about that with the rail cart system and we were told that it's not coming to this body because we don't have the administration and Parts does.

Robert Stoldal: 04:15:08

That in fact is how State Lands says because the rails are on public state lands therefore they have the authority to do that. I think your point's well taken. Does this include these rides? And secondly, what is a train? Have we defined a train in this agreement? I mean, shouldn't we-- I mean, is a train two cars? Three cars? Caboose? I mean, what is-- what's a train here? And I think, if we're going to have a rental agreement, we need to determine rather than a generic use of the word train, what are we talking about? Can they use up to six, seven cars? I think that should be in [inaudible], but let's get back to Anthony's question about whether or not the State Lands should be a part of this.

Dan Thielen: 04:16:11

This is Dan Thielen, for the record. State Lands is involved in the rail bike thing, and that example is a lease, a long-term lease for use of the property. We're talking about rentals for incidental rentals, and that's what this agreement's for.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:16:35

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. To answer the second part of your question, the language here, first of all, the generic train, this is the language utilized by the Attorney General's Office who put this contract together. The length of the train is determined by the number of attendees, which you see down there under item 1.1. That limits the number of attendees as 250 per train. That will determine the number of cars that would be on the train. So we [crosstalk]--

Dan Thielen: 04:17:06

Dan Thielen, for the record. So if you could fit 250 people into one car, then the one-car train is its limit. If you have--

Robert Stoldal:

04:17:15

Oh, Dan, I understand that. But you could have 10 cars with 25 people.

Dan Thielen: 04:17:20

Correct.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:17:21

about Mr. Chair, this is set up in a way to where the maintenance and cost of running the train that are incurred by the state are covered. At \$10 per person, we need 25 attendees per run to make it so the train is incurring the maintenance costs. That's very easy to do. For most of these special events, they're at 75 to 100 percent capacity, so they're meeting the costs of what we run it at. If they weren't, we wouldn't be doing these special events because we're not trying to add more burden to the state. To your previous question about comments made by my predecessor, I would say at that point in time they were running the trains every day to support rail bike operation, and that's something that Director Thielen and I immediately stopped. That's not what happened. It's not what's going to happen with the new vendor, they

will require it to be on their own. So we do not operate our trains anymore in support

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. To get at the heart of what you're asking

running per day and the overall maintenance costs on this museum.

Robert Stoldal:

04:18:33

So you're saying that the train rides, both the regular train rides and the fundraising train rides, they pay for themselves?

of a rail bike operation, which has dramatically decreased the number of trains

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:18:43

Christopher MacMahon for the record, that is correct. They pay for themselves based on the revenue generated by the current ticket fees. What we are requesting at Boulder City is an increase for some of the other special things to help better cover the cost to the museum, particularly when it comes to staffing some of those. And these are special things like renting the locomotive, renting out special trains, renting a car on the train. Those all require a significant number of staff hours, particularly interchanging and working with the groups that are doing these rentals. And so the increase in prices you see there reflect that the cost to operate and maintain, as well as the staffing hours that go into facilitating those types of agreements.

Robert Stoldal:

04:19:31

All right. So the question we have before the board is the Generic Rental Agreement. While it has some specifics in there regarding a specific train run, the Bunny Express, that's not part of what we would be looking at. This is only a generic that would be used for other fundraising. And there is no need to-- according to the director, to describe the train other than the definition of 250 attendees per train. Is there any other questions regarding the adoption of this Generic Rental Agreement? I don't see any hands going up either.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:20:29

Mr. Chairman, this is Bob Ostrovsky. Just one question.

Robert Stoldal:

04:20:31

Yes.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:20:32

This requires the museum to sign off and the party doing the rental. Is that adequate? Do you want Division to sign off? Do you want any other signature required or is it adequate? Just a question.

Robert Stoldal:

04:20:49

Well, I would think that, at the bare minimum, we would have to have the administrator sign off on it. And I think that as it says, I'm assuming, Director MacMahon, that under the last page, page 404, that under "buy", it would list the nonprofit agency's name and the person authorized to do that.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:21:18

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. As this document currently exists, it would be signed off by the museum director or their [inaudible], whoever is responsible for doing facility or rental agreements at the museum in Boulder City. That's myself and then the organization running the trend would be the other signatory. In this instance, it would be the Friends organization doing the volunteers and their representative, generally, their treasurer or president of the organization.

Robert Stoldal:

04:21:45

Yeah. I would just ask that the word "title" be added to both of those so we know who's signing off by the Friends. And I would think that any rental of this size should

be also signed off by the state administration. Those would be my two

recommendations to that. Although I do have a question. We're allowed on the state

to sale alcohol on the trains?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:22:15

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. We are. The state cannot be involved with it. They have to provide a copy of the local liquor license, as well as, provide proof that their employees have their TAMP cards.

Robert Stoldal:

04:22:28

Let me just restate in a different way. The State of Nevada can rent its equipment out

for the sale of liquor?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:22:39

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. If that is what the organization wants to do. It's part of the agreement. Again, I would note that this contractual agreement was created by the Attorney General's Office so if there was something wrong with it, I'm

sure the AG's office would have said something. But as long as we, as state employees, and volunteers for the museum are not involved in anyway shape or form of with distribution or handling of liquor, it is permitted to do so.

Robert Stoldal:

04:23:09

Okay. My last question and maybe this is a question for the Attorney General's Office.

Can the State of Nevada, can the museums rent the trains to themselves?

Harry Ward: 04:23:23

[inaudible] Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. Mr. Chair, I didn't understand your question. Can the museum rent the trains themselves? Is that what your question

was?

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:23:32

Can they rent the train to themselves?

Harry Ward: 04:23:35

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. I don't know why you wouldn't be able to write a contract and rent it to yourself. A contract's a contract. I don't see why you wouldn't be able to do that. I don't think there would be any prohibit-nothing that would prohibit you from doing. Contracting with yourself, as a paper trail. I'm sure a well-drafted and crafted contract could possibly be done.

Robert Stoldal:

04:24:06

The only reason for those that were bidding on the extreme, this would be a way for the museum to get around the \$10 fee. They could just rent all the trains to themselves and charge \$30 and keep 20 and send 10 off to the state.

Robert Stoldal: 04:24:28

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. I think that may be a problem because then you're trying to, quote-unquote, "skate" the law or the intent of the law. So I think it would be challenged by the state, state treasurer, or whomever.

Robert Stoldal: 04:24:45

But a couple of times a year wouldn't fit into that category.

Dan Markoff: 04:24:56

Well, why doesn't the state just go out and use the locomotive when they want in the train?

Robert Stoldal:

04:25:02

Well, it seemed unusual that the state of Nevada is going to rent itself a piece of

equipment that are already owned, but--

Dan Markoff: 04:25:13

As a lawyer, I don't see that happening.

Myron Freedman:

04:25:18

Mr. Chair?

Robert Stoldal:

04:25:20

Please.

Myron Freedman:

04:25:21

Myron Freedman, for the record. Well, in fact, I do think there's a scenario there that makes a lot of sense. I mean, the \$10 is collected because you have a ride around the train. Correct? And that's the charge for riding the train, is \$10. So that gets remitted back to the state. But here's an opportunity for the trust fund to realize some income as well by the museum holding its own fundraiser. Yeah. A program, but a fundraising program that generates some money. This does not go to the Friends except to pay for any operational costs, right? And then the rest of it will go into the trust fund as a fundraising. So now you're building up the trust fund category to use for critical needs just like anything else. So you've had two fundraising opportunities. You have the Friends doing their events and they're remitting a check back to the trust fund at certain times. But the museum could also target some special need they would like to

raise money for and develop a fundraising program for that. So they do that twice a

Robert Stoldal: 04:26:40

Oh I certainly see the benefit but in my question whether or not it's legal to rent something that's like a piece of state equipment to the state, but let's move on. We have the document before the board. Unless the board has some additional agreements or questions, I would look for a motion to adopt it. Again, the only two changes I would make would be on the last page where we would have the title of whoever is signing the document from the state and the nonprofit. And then would also be a signing off for by the administrative State Museum System. Beyond that, are there any questions? I see one hand. Myron.

Myron Freedman:

04:27:27

So I [inaudible] want to ask--

Jan Petersen: 04:27:29

Jan Petersen, for the record. When somebody is renting the dining cart, then they accept the rentor is separately responsible for-- I'm calling them a caterer. Is that correct?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:27:48

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That's correct.

Jan Petersen: 04:27:50 They bring their own food.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:27:52

It's up to them to either bring their own food or select their own caterer as--

Jan Petersen: 04:27:56 You're not [inaudible].

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:27:57

Dan Thielen: 04:28:03

We do not buy recommendations, we don't facilitate that. It's up to the rentor.

Dan Thielen. At this time. There are some opportunities there, and they're also required to pull a food permit and all the rest of it.

Robert Stoldal:

04:28:15

Other questions, Myron?

Myron Freedman:

04:28:17

Yeah. Mr. Chair. Thank you. Myron Freedman, for the record. I'm not sure what the need would be for my signature on that document, because this represents standard events that the museum is doing annually. This represents the events that go on to that list of approved train rides. So it's already getting approved in advance. It's not like there's a surprising thing being sprung here on us. Right? So it's sort of their standard. This is part of their standard program. I don't sign off on anything like that at other museums, so I would just offer that perspective on whether I need to sign off on this document.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:29:08

Well, this is not a seminar at the Historical Society. This is not a presentation at the State Museum in Carson City. This is renting a massive steam locomotive or diesel locomotive. It's a big deal, and it has all kinds of problems associated with it. It has to follow federal rules. This is not just a silo for each of the museums. There's some federal standards that need to be applied. So you don't see the need, but the downside is-- what's the downside, Myron? Dan has got his hands up, but Myron, what's the downside of you signing off on it?

Myron Freedman:

04:29:59

Well, the downside is simply another step in their process that they're having some other hoop they're having to jump through when they're doing this quite a few times

a year according to the schedule. And like I said, this has all been approved in advance essentially.

Robert Stoldal:

04:30:20

I see five times a year, and that's not a big-- you're not a big whoop. Daniel.

Dan Thielen: 04:30:27

This is Dan Thielen, for the record. When you describe the use of the train as a rental where there are so many other restrictions and requirements, it makes it sound like we're completely divesting ourselves of control of this equipment during the period of time and turning it over to other people as a rental like you would rent a car. It's never going to be like that. It's going to be under the direct supervision of the staff with people that have been trained to operate this equipment. It's not ever of the control of the state.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:31:05

There's three people in Boulder City staff. Three people.

Dan Thielen: 04:31:11 Correct. [crosstalk]--

Robert Stoldal:

dal. Thusa was wis Co the

04:31:11

Three people. So the train-- museum staff doesn't run the train. They're not the engineers.

crigineers.

?: 04:31:20 Yes. [crosstalk]--

Robert Stoldal:

Are they the engineers?

04:31:21

Dan Thielen: 04:31:22 Dan Thielen, for the record. Can be, but typically not. So [crosstalk]--

Robert Stoldal:

04:31:30

Then why are you opposed to Myron signing off on this?

Dan Thielen: 04:31:32 This would be my-this would be my thing. Dan Thielen, for the record. In the flurry of

doing the business of the state, and we have a schedule that has come around every year, and we forget one signature, and we realize it the morning of, and the final signature is out of state and we can't get it, by requiring that signature, we would

cancel the event. That would be a tough thing.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:32:02

Christopher MacMahon--

Robert Stoldal:

04:32:03

Well, with all due respect, "flurry" is not a word that I use in five times a year, Dan,

but listen, this is up to the board to make the decision. Christopher?

Dan Thielen: 04:32:16 Christopher MacMahon, for the record. I also would argue against your

characterization of [inaudible] being different from other museum programming. While there are things like lectures and stuff that take place, running trains is what we do at [inaudible] museums. That is our programming, and that's under the purview of the director. This is what you hired us for, is that special [inaudible] knowledge. And what you're doing is basically saying our knowledge doesn't matter, we need another signature on this. Do you trust us or not? That's what it comes down to. We have a good idea of what's going to be in the benefit of the museum for the maintenance or care or equipment. And if you want us to go through the signature, okay, we'll jump through that hoop. But from my impression, it feels you don't trust us to make the

appropriate decisions for the museum.

Robert Stoldal:

04:33:06

Director, the Nevada Revised Statutes have responsibilities for this board. And those responsibilities have certain-- cascading down that you may look at it as a matter of

trust. I think it's simply a matter of fulfilling our responsibilities to the taxpayers and having five-- I want to count it again. One, two, three, four, five, six, there's seven times that we would be asking Myron to sign off on that. But I'm not making decision. I'm just suggesting that's something that should be in there. It's up to the board to make that decision.

Anthony Timmons:

Mr. Chairman.

04:33:55

Robert Stoldal:

Please.

04:33:57

**Anthony Timmons:** 

Anthony Timmons, for the record. I would like to approve the template. Contract is

presented in this action item. 04:33:58

Jan Petersen, for the record, I'll second it. Jan Petersen: 04:34:06

**Robert Stoldal:** So if I understand right, the requirement to have the title of the-- who's signing this is

not part of your motion? 04:34:11

Anthony Timmons:

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record. That is correct, sir.

04:34:25

Jan Petersen: 04:34:31 Jan Petersen seconded it.

We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion? General public? All those in Robert Stoldal:

04:34:33 favor, please say aye.

?: 04:34:45 Aye.

Those opposed. Robert Stoldal:

04:34:47

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:34:48

04:34:51

Nay. Who was the other nay?

Nay.

Robert Stoldal:

Robert Ostrovsky:

Bob Ostrovsky. 04:34:55

Robert Stoldal:

Bob Stoldal also says no.

04:34:57

Deb Rudo: 04:35:00 Who was the other no?

Who was the other no? Mercedes De La Garza:

04:35:01

Myron Freedman: Ostrovsky and someone--

04:35:03

Anthony Timmons: And Bob.

04:35:04

Doris Dwyer: 04:35:05 And Bob?

Robert Stoldal: So the motion carries. The rental agreement is approved as stand. Let's move on then 04:35:07 to the next agenda item, which is 13. No is 14 A2 and that's the actual fee schedule.

We've had some discussion about that. Questions by the board? Let's go to first of all

the bottom horizontal set of things. The first one is FNSRY, Bunny Express, and let me ask a question. The board does not sign off on any of these rental agreements, is that correct?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:36:14

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. You're not a signatory on the agreement, but this is included with our annual proposal of special events that you've asked us to present [inaudible] approve, whether that's quarterly or annual. So for example, the Bunny Express was approved by this board at the December meeting, so you've had a chance to review that program and approve it based on fee schedule and the information presented to you.

Robert Stoldal:

04:36:40

This is for fiscal-- the coming fiscal year, not the past fiscal year. We haven't approved anything yet for the next fiscal year.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:36:49

Correct. So we're requesting it again to do next year. We're planning for the future. So all the events listed in FY24 are there for your consideration. That's how you were involved in this process--

Robert Stoldal:

04:37:05

Okay, so my question then is, on the first one, I presume that's a fundraiser? Doesn't say that.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:37:13

Christopher MacMahon, for the record, everything listed under special events are listed as special fundraisers with our Friends with the exception of the standard trains

which are specials at the speedways.

Robert Stoldal:

04:37:28

Okay. With due all apologies, it doesn't say that. It's got some that are listed as

fundraisers and some that are not. So let's--

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:37:38

Christopher MacMahon--

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:37:38

--go down, one by one. The Bunny Express, is that a fundraiser?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:37:42

Yes, it is.

Robert Stoldal:

04:37:44

And how much money are they charging for that ride?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:37:51

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Are you asking for this year or are you asking to guess what their fee will be in the next fiscal year? Because I can't answer the latter

part. I can tell you what their fee is this year and that's [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal:

04:38:02

I'm asking what the board's being asked to approve.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:38:09

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The board is being asked to approve this event with the understanding that for all of our special event trains that are run as fundraisers with the Friends of Nevada Southern, so all the events that you see FNSRY preceding the name of the event, those are fundraisers, special events, in conjunction with our Friends. We're asking you to approve those events with a fee of \$10 per

person, remitted back to the state.

Robert Stoldal:

04:38:40

So in past years, the board has said a fee of up to. So that's being eliminated this fiscal

year?

Dan Thielen: 04:38:55 Dan Thielen, for the record. The board expressed a disinterest in that type of pricing

structure, so we removed it in this request.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:39:04

I'm sorry, Dan. I couldn't hear you.

Dan Thielen: 04:39:07 Dan Thielen, for the record. Last year, the board expressed a disinterest in having an

up to [inaudible] price on these events. And so we removed it and put in a baseline state recovery of the revenue for their ticket cost. And the Friends would do their

fundraiser on top of that and develop what they could.

Robert Stoldal:

04:39:41

Dan, I don't remember the board saying it didn't want to know what to set a

maximum fee.

Myron Freedman:

04:39:49

Myron [crosstalk] record. I think what their concern was, is that-- it was at one point

we set the market--

Dan Thielen: 04:39:57 With the market [crosstalk]--

Myron Freedman:

04:39:58

With the market [inaudible]. Yeah. The board did not like that.

Dan Thielen: 04:40:01 And then we went back to a "not to exceed" and that had the same friction. Well, I

remember that [inaudible].

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:40:13

Well, my opinion would be that the board should have some responsibility in setting

the maximum no more than for a ride on the state property.

Dan Thielen: 04:40:32 Dan Thielen, for the record. We would be pleased to have your suggestion.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:40:39

Well, the reason the board in the past used the phrase up to is something that Director MacMahon said is, the cost on some of these are unknown until you start doing it. Therefore, the fee could be still making a profit at \$35 or \$40, or \$45, but that the board felt that there was a need to set a maximum, and then the Friends group or whoever would be able to work within that. So that would be my

recommendation that we would set a fee of up to \$50.

Dan Thielen: 04:41:19 Perfect.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:41:20

That's good.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

04:41:21

That's acceptable, yes.

Dan Thielen: 04:41:22 Dan Thielen, for the record. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

04:41:26

Christopher, do you want to add in?

Dan Thielen: 04:41:30 Christopher MacMahon, for the record. No. \$50 is the cap that I've set at the

museum, so it matches what I'm already doing as to [inaudible], and I'm happy to

have the board's oversight on that.

Robert Stoldal:

04:41:42

All right. So it looks like there is one, two, three, four, five, seven trains that are-- or

six trains that are proposed this coming year? Fundraisers?

Dan Thielen: 04:42:06 Dan Thielen, for the record. Correct.

**Anthony Timmons:** Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record. Wait, there was an eighth one that I

04:42:11 heard about that-- with the Friends group in December. Is that in here too?

Dan Thielen: 04:42:22 Dan Thielen, for the record. Yes. Santa Train fundraisers are weekend of December

for passenger fees.

**Anthony Timmons:** Okay. So it is that-- that one that's in-- again, Anthony Timmons for the record. That is

04:42:29 inclusive of that Friend's Special Train ride, or something?

Does that include the special train ride? Myron Freedman:

04:42:40

04:44:32

04:44:43

Dan Thielen: 04:42:42 Correct.

Myron Freedman: [inaudible].

04:42:42

Dan Thielen: 04:42:49 By and by here. Dan Thielen, for the record. The Story Time Train is an internal

activity, museum activity.

Christopher Christopher MacMahon for the record. It's the same in Boulder City. It's a program we MacMahon: 04:43:00 run ourselves, so it would not be-- follow the category of a fundraiser with Friends.

Robert Stoldal: All right. Let's take one museum at a time. Dan Thielen, what are you proposing here?

04:43:10 And Story Train is not a fundraiser so. Dan, let's start with you.

Dan Thielen: 04:43:30 Dan Thielen for the record. This, for a Friends activity as a fundraiser, is Santa Train

and the Extravaganza.

Robert Stoldal: So there's three or-- how many? Two?

04:43:43

Dan Thielen: 04:43:47 There are two fundraisers per year on this request. You may hear more coming out as

we develop programming that we would like to do for a year, but we did not request

them, we're not ready to stand those up yet.

Robert Stoldal: Okay. So I'm just going to read across and we can have a motion to approve this. It's

04:44:04 the Santa Train.

Dan Thielen: 04:44:16 Correct. Third weekend, \$8 per seat, \$5 per seat remitted back to the state. The

Extravaganza, \$10 remitted back to the state.

Christopher [inaudible] looking at those standard [inaudible].

MacMahon: 04:44:29

Robert Stoldal: Okay, so I would look for a motion to approve those two for Carson City.

Jan Petersen: 04:44:39 Jan Petersen, for the record. I so move.

Robert Stoldal: Do we have a second?

Doris Dwyer: 04:44:46

Robert Stoldal: We have a motion, we have a second, to approve the two fundraising trains in the

04:44:48 Carson City Museum. Further discussion of the board? Hearing none, all those in-- the

general public? All those in favor say aye.

Doris Dwyer, I second the motion.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:45:09

Aye.

?: 04:45:10

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 04:45:10

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

04:45:11

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the chair voting in favor, and noted

that the director of the Carson City facility indicated there may be additional

fundraising opportunities coming later this year that would come before that board. The one thing we left out of that motion was-- well actually, in this case it doesn't. Dan, do either one of these trains going to cost-- are you trying to raise money up to

\$50?

Dan Thielen: 04:45:47

Dan Thielen, for the record. Our Friends group are very preliminary stages on how to make this a premium event to exceed much more than what the state offers. It's a vision issue with them, so they're not quite as mature as they are in Boulder City and that's where they're trying to develop a program for that.

Robert Stoldal: 04:46:18

So Dan, would you have a problem with the board passing an attachment motion to that that the fees would go no higher than \$50?

Dan Thielen, for the record, that's absolute-- yes.

Robert Stoldal:

04:46:32

Okay.

Dan Thielen: 04:46:33

Dan Thielen: 04:46:27

My recommendation would be to make as much of this standardized between both museums so it's not as dang convoluted as it seems to get every dang year. [laughter]

So I'd look for a motion from the board that we set for all the fundraiser, whether

We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion? Public? All those in favor

Robert Stoldal: 04:46:47

Carson City or Boulder City, not to exceed a ticket fee of \$50. I just made that motion. So moved, Mr. Chairman. Bob Ostrovsky.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:47:00

Robert Stoldal:

say aye.

04:47:03

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:47:13

Aye.

?: 04:47:14

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed?

04:47:15

Deb Rudo: 04:47:18 Who was the second?

Robert Stoldal:

I'm sorry.

04:47:20

Deb Rudo: 04:47:21 Who was the second?

Myron Freedman:

04:47:23

Who made the original motion? Was that you, Bob Stoldal?

Robert Stoldal:

I did. Yes, Stoldal made the motion.

04:47:26

Myron Freedman:

04:47:28

Bob Stoldal made the motion. Bob Ostrovsky seconded.

Deb Rudo: 04:47:31

Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

04:47:33

Were there any "no" votes? All right, now, let's move on then to Boulder City. It looks like there-- if I'm counting this right, there's a Bunny Express, Train of Terror, and a

Santa Express.

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:47:51

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That's correct. We're probably going to rebrand our October trains so they'll be called something different but they'll operate at the same time. We're just looking to make it a little bit more family-friendly.

Robert Stoldal:

04:48:06

All right, again, the up to \$50 also holds true for all of these? Further discussion by the board on the one, two, I count one, two, three, is it three or is the music train

included? Is that a fundraiser?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:48:21

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. That was a test case that the board approved at their last meeting that we're going to try and do this spring if we can make it happen. It was proof of concept. If it proves viable, I will reapproach the board at a future meeting to talk about future events. As of right now, the ones I feel comfortable putting forward are the three you see before you.

Robert Stoldal:

04:48:46

Okay. So we don't have a music train approved for this coming this fiscal year,

correct?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:48:52

Not for fiscal year '24, no.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:48:54

Great. All right.

Myron Freedman:

04:48:54

You approved the one this spring at the last meeting. Myron Freedman, for the

record.

?: 04:49:05

[inaudible].

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:49:12

All right. Then I would look for a motion for the Bunny Express, Train of Terror, and the Santa Express. And are any of those rental agreements potentially with the state

or are all those Friends?

Christopher

MacMahon: 04:49:32

Christopher MacMahon, for the record, these are all three fundraisers we do with the

Friends. Those are Friends fundraisers.

Robert Stoldal:

04:49:39

04:49:42

Okay. Look for motion to approve?

Robert Ostrovsky: Mr. Chairman, Ostrovsky. I would approve the three events as listed in our packet

materials.

Robert Stoldal:

04:49:51

We have a motion, do we have a second?

Mercedes De La Garza:

04:49:54

Mercedes De La Garza, for record. Second.

Robert Stoldal:

Was that Mercedes?

04:49:58

Mercedes De La Garza:

04:50:00

Yes.

Robert Stoldal:

All right. We have a motion, we have a second. Further discussion by the board?

04:50:00 General public? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:50:15

Aye.

Michelle Schmitter:

04:50:15

Aye.

Courtney Mooney:

04:50:16

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

04:50:17

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor.

Myron Freedman:

04:50:25

Any chance I get I oppose. [laughter] [inaudible]. Mr. Chair?

Robert Stoldal:

Please.

04:50:41

Myron Freedman:

04:50:42

Myron Freedman, for the record. I'm asking you if you're done with that section, or when you are done, if we could jump to the request coming from the Boulder-- the Carson City Railroad Museum. I don't think Ely really has any requests. These two gentlemen have an appointment with one of the legislators and I'd like to make sure

they make that appointment.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

04:51:09

Yeah. I'm sorry. The two museum directors are going to testify?

Myron Freedman:

04:51:15

They are going to meet with the legislator.

?: 04:51:19

Order number 10.

Myron Freedman:

04:51:21

15C.

Robert Stoldal:

04:51:22

Is that a private secret meeting?

Myron Freedman:

04:51:26

The legislator has requested information on the Ely bill. So they're going to-- into one.

Robert Stoldal:

04:51:39

All right. So let's move, the request is-- I apologize I need to get my agendas in order.

Myron Freedman:

It's 15F. 15F 1,2, and 3.

?: 04:52:02

04:51:47

[inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

All right. Let's take each one of those unilaterally. Lets go to 13F, Nevada State

04:52:05

Railroad Museum in Carson City. Dan, is there anything-- highlights that you want to

make sure that the board is aware of?

Dan Thielen: 04:52:19

I can't get express-- Dan Thielen, for the record, I cannot express how grateful I am to have the staff that I have. In particular, I want to highlight working with Sean Pitts who's been an absolute amazing director for 30 years. I want to recognize that Chris MacMahon who is a thoughtful, energetic, great museum director in Boulder City has passed probation and we're lucky to have him on board. And he is making problems go away in Boulder City, and you can't ask for more than that. We threw him in the deep end, tossed him a couple of sharks, and he's doing tremendous in there.

Dan Thielen: 04:53:00

Our museum store has done better than any store in the division at this time. It's tremendous. Visitation is moving up in ways that we want it to happen. Our admissions and our train ride fees are coming in over our budgeted revenues. It's been a great year. If you look through the photos that we sent, we've got some tremendous Santa Train photos that just was a once-in-a-lifetime event to be in the snow playing with steam trains. Absolute remarkable record safety-wise. We got slammed by the snow. Very hard to dig out. The public stayed away in droves. And so it has been a terrific quarter. Our harvest train sold out. Our parking lot was too full to take visitors. They're tremendous problems to have, and we want to build on the branding that we're doing, and we want that to cross-pollinate for Boulder City and Ely. The ideas and the programs that can grow organically, we want to move on that. So it's been a terrific quarter. We're heading into a total of a terrific year. Our first request is for-- well, let me interchange to questions. What are your questions? There should be none. [laughter]

Robert Stoldal: 04:54:29

Board? Any comments, thoughts other than the, "Dan, it's nice to see the store moving forward"? If there are no questions, we will move on to Agenda 15 F1, the contract the Pour Concrete LLC. Dan?

Dan Thielen: 04:54:51

This contract will allow us to pour concrete throughout the museum and make the museum safer by not having a four-inch drop off the edges where people put a folding chair when they're sitting for presentations. This'll also allow, should we ever get rented as a premium wedding venue, the ability to pull those [inaudible] out and have a very broad area for us to have dances and food in a non-linear functioning space. It's a great opportunity. The concrete came in at 44,000. We're going to correct a couple of ADA problems, we're going to realign the track, and that [inaudible] organized. And then further in the budget, there's some other things that we're going to do.

?: 04:55:50

[inaudible].

Dan Thielen: 04:55:52

It was approved in our annual funding request in June. We were delaying this concrete project to coincide with the-- see, I could either fix the roof and put air conditioning in. And the delays in that project suddenly turned this into a little bit of a squeeze to get it done before the end of fiscal.

Robert Stoldal:

04:56:16

Question for the board? If not, look for a motion to approve.

[silence]

Doris Dwyer: 04:56:33

This is Doris Dwyer, I make a motion to approve the contract of the Nevada Railroad

Museum, Carson with pour concrete work.

Robert Stoldal:

04:56:43

We have a second?

Courtney Mooney:

04:56:49

Courtney Mooney--

Anthony Timmons:

04:56:54

That's Courtney Mooney.

Deb Rudo: 04:56:55

She second? Courtney?

Myron Freedman:

You got a second from Courtney Mooney. All right. We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion? General public-- sorry. Please, go ahead. Doris?

04:56:57

She [inaudible]--Jan Petersen: 04:57:10

Myron Freedman:

04:57:11

He was out [inaudible].

Jan Petersen: 04:57:12

Or did you--

Doris Dwyer: 04:57:13

No.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

Courtney Mooney.

04:57:14

Myron Freedman:

Courtney Mooney.

04:57:14

?: 04:57:15

[inaudible].

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:57:19

Mr. Chair. [crosstalk] Bob Ostrovsky.

Robert Stoldal:

04:57:21

Go ahead.

Robert Ostrovsky:

04:57:22

I will vote to support this. I just-- I need to express on the record my continued disappointment that the state can't help our facilities meet the ADA requirements,

that we have to dip in to do this. But I will support this because it's the only

alternative we have. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

04:57:42

We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion?

Dan Markoff: 04:57:45

I'm looking at the bottom of the second page of this agreement. At least I think it's the agreement. And it says, "Schedule work to be must be completed by June 1st,

2021."

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Yeah, why is that?

04:57:58

[silence]

Myron Freedman:

04:58:13

Mr. Chair, Myron Freedman, for the record. [inaudible] approved this, with the date

being moved to 2023?

Harry Ward: 04:58:28

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. This could be considered a scrivener's error. But as long as it's noted that we are making a change in open-

meeting law and publicly done, I don't see that being a problem.

Robert Stoldal:

04:58:43

Dan Markoff, thank you for the-- for that. With that correction or that a notice, we have a motion; we have a second. Further comments, discussions? If not, all those in

favor say, aye.

?: 04:59:02

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

04:59:06

Those opposed. Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting with those in favor. Move on to the next agenda item. Dan, this is also in your bailiwick. And this is the request for funds for the purchase of a forklift. This comes out of private funds as well.

Dan Thielen: 04:59:39

This is Dan Thielen. This request for support to buy a replacement forklift for the current forklift we have on the property. We've had an exceptional year in admissions and train ride revenues. We find that we have a surplus of \$35,000. The forklift we are currently using is 40 years old and no longer can be maintained. Replacement parts are difficult to find. We've gotten some ideas on what the price or the cost of used late model forklifts are. We have pulled together license plate funds, a \$10,000 grant from the Friends. We're asking to spend 60,000 on a Cat 55 to support this project. The forklift is absolutely critical to the operation of the museum. It's the one item that if it breaks a many components of our program fall. You have it for you. I know you're not going to like it, but we've got about \$350,000 in donations and those funds were to support the programming that we have. They were unrestricted funds, but it-- I think it's a good use of the funds.

Robert Stoldal:

05:01:04

Stoldal for the record. And we can only get 15 out of the license plate funds?

Dan Thielen: 05:01:11

Dan Thielen, for the record. I'm grateful to have the 15. Make no mistake about it. I'm grateful to have the 15/. The--

Robert Stoldal:

05:01:19

I'm sorry, Dan, that wasn't committed to you. That was to Myron who's in charge of those allocations.

Myron Freedman:

05:01:25

Yeah, Myron Freedman, for the record. So we received requests from all the museums. This request came in a little bit late. We already promised funds for other things, so this is what we were able to put towards this.

Robert Stoldal:

05:01:43

I'll leave that up to the board. Thoughts from the board?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:01:47

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record. I'm confused. The total comes to

119, so I don't know if it's supposed to be 119 or--

Myron Freedman:

05:02:00

115.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:02:01

--or is the 56 supposed to pick up the difference?

Myron Freedman: 115.

05:02:04

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:02:06

[inaudible].

**Anthony Timmons:** 

If you add the numbers together, it's 119.

05:02:07

Myron Freedman:

05:02:08

119.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:02:09

It's 119 [inaudible].

**Anthony Timmons:** 

I don't know.

05:02:12

Daphne DeLeon:

[inaudible].

68 [inaudible].

05:02:13

Myron Freedman:

05:02:17

Okay. Thank you, Myron Freedman, for the record of pointing that out. [inaudible]. If you will approve this at 119, we feel we're going to take the 4,000 out of the license

plates. That'd become \$19,000.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:02:39

So we need a-- Anthony Timmons, for the record. So we need--

Dan Thielen: 05:02:45

Myron Freedman:

05:02:46

Oh. It is [inaudible] from 119 right now. So if you add up the general funds, the license

plate funds, the [inaudible], and the dress funds, it comes to 119. On the [crosstalk]--

?: 05:02:56 The grand total.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:02:57

Oh. So we just [inaudible]. Daphne DeLeon, for the record. So do we--

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:03:02

56.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:03:05

Correct. Daphne DeLeon, for the record. The amount, the total amount is incorrect on

the memo. It adds up to 119, which then would--

Myron Freedman:

05:03:14

Oh, I see.

Doris Dwyer: 05:03:15

Make the request.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:03:16

--would lower the request from the private funds at 55 to 56 thousand. Correct?

Myron Freedman:

05:03:22

It's 115 once a year?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:03:24

Yes.

Myron Freedman:

05:03:24

Okay.

Robert Stoldal:

05:03:25

All right. The audio was a little soft, so let me just feedback. So the dollar figures, rather than 115, it adds up to 119, but it's actually only 115. And we're reducing the

56 or the 60 to 56 thousand is the request?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:03:46

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. You are correct.

Robert Stoldal:

05:03:49

Okay. All right. So we look for a motion for the 56,000.

Dan Markoff: 05:03:55

Mr. Chairman, Dan Markoff here. Are they talking about buying a brand-new

machine?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:04:03

No.

Dan Markoff: 05:04:05 What?

[inaudible] used. Jan Petersen: 05:04:06

I can't hear you. Dan Markoff: 05:04:10

Jan Petersen: 05:04:11 [inaudible] it's a newer model used.

And they want 115,000 or 119,000 for that thing? Dan Markoff: 05:04:15

Daphne DeLeon:

05:04:20

Yep.

Myron Freedman:

05:04:21

Yes.

Dan Markoff: 05:04:22

Who are you getting it from?

Myron Freedman:

05:04:27

Myron Freedman, for the record. Jan had to run out. I do know that they did a lot of research on where to find it. And they identified a particular model. And, as I

understand it, they felt like, "Well, the price is high, but this equipment in general is

very, very expensive." And [inaudible]--

Dan Markoff: 05:04:53

[inaudible] it's not that complicated. I mean, have you checked with Ahern down here

who makes Xtreme?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:05:03

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. As administrator Freedman had noted, the museum director for the Railroad Museum did his due diligence in doing his research in getting

[inaudible]--

Dan Markoff: 05:05:13

You got to speak slower. I can barely understand you.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:05:17

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. The museum director did his due diligence in

researching quotes used newer models that would fit the needs of his museum and

he selected this model that came in at 115.

Jan Petersen: 05:05:36 [inaudible].

Dan Markoff: 05:05:38 I can't believe a forklift; a used one is costing that much.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:05:44

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. What they're looking for, Dan, is similar to the

skylift we used; that's what they're looking to replace. And 115 is actually quite

reasonable.

Dan Markoff: 05:05:55

From who? Where are they getting it from?

Myron Freedman:

05:06:05

Myron Freedman, for the record. Dan had to run out, so I can get that information for

you.

Dan Markoff: 05:06:12

Have you guys considered talking to State Surplus or anything?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:06:18

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Dan has contacted State Surplus. This is specialized equipment that is not available through State Surplus. Because it is so expensive to replace, agencies tend to keep them as long as possible until they're basically too expensive to maintain, which is the case of the Carson City Railroad. So there is nothing available through State Surplus.

Dan Markoff: 05:06:44

So you're saying that SkyTrack is no longer making the parts for this thing?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:06:52

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Director Thielen did note earlier that it was very difficult to get the replacement parts, and when they do find them, they're very expensive.

Dan Markoff: 05:07:04

What is failing on the SkyTrack that you have?

Dan Markoff: 05:07:09

This is Daphne DeLeon, for the record. As Administrator Myron Freedman had noted, Director Dan Thielen had to step out of the meeting, and we do not have access to

that information.

Dan Markoff: 05:07:21

So you don't know what failed then?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:07:24

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. As a fiscal officer, I do not.

Dan Markoff: 05:07:27

Okay. Well, I know that some of this equipment's pretty expensive, but I would think you could find something cheaper than this. It sounds like somebody's trying to take advantage of the state. That's all I have to say about it.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:07:54

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. It's just, for a used piece of equipment like that, that's actually quite reasonable. If you're going to get something new, it's going to be about three times that price. These are specialized, heavy-duty industrial equipment, and that's why it's so hard for us to replace on the state side. I know it seems like it's a lot, but this is really reasonable.

Robert Stoldal: 05:08:15

I hope you understand that we're being asked to spend a significant amount of money with one paragraph of limited information. And if I hear somebody say we're micromanaging once again, I'll call for a five-minute break to recover. [laughter] This is state funds that we have a responsibility for, and there is just limited information here to spend this kind of money, and we're supposed to just be some sort of rubber stamp, which is just not what this board has ever been. So I'm just not sure. I mean, Dan's questions are right on target, and maybe these answers should have been just provided with the--- I don't know. I hope I haven't lost everybody. [inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

05:09:05

With the quotes?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:09:06

No, I can hear you.

Myron Freedman:

05:09:08

Myron Freedman, for the record. Chair, let us get the quotes and we'll bring it back to the board. If there's a dire, dire need by the Railroad Museum on this, I may ask if you'll consider holding a special meeting just to pass this. But let us do that.

Dan Markoff: 05:09:31

I certainly have no-- Dan Markoff, I don't have a problem with that at all.

Robert Stoldal:

05:09:35

Well, this has only been myself and Dan talking. Let's hear the rest of the board if there may be somebody that wants to approve it, and then we would take a motion to approve or not. And calling a special meeting, we've done that many times before,

and-- but it's just that the board, I think, needs more information. But let's go to the

rest of the board.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:09:59

Chairman, Bob Ostrovsky, had a question. Yeah. There's some general fund revenue involved in this transaction. Does that require us to use purchasing, state purchasing, or do we not have to do that because it's not a majority? I just don't know the state purchasing rules that well.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:10:17

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. For a purchase of this extent, just cost over \$100,000,

we would have to use state purchasing through the RXQ process?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:10:31

So this is Bob Ostrovsky again. So state purchasing will go out and get bids, is that

right?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:10:37

They will go out and get bids based on-- and what we'll do is we would forward-sorry. Daphne DeLeon for the record. He would forward our quote because it's a specialized piece of equipment. And then they would see if there is anyone else that could provide the same quality and functionality that we need in that equipment for a

lower price.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:10:58

Thank you.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:10:59

You're welcome.

Robert Stoldal:

05:11:00

Question by the board?

Jan Petersen: 05:11:03

Jan Petersen, for the record. I move we proceed with this request for the specialized forklift with the price because it will have to go through state purchasing anyway so I think we need to get the ball rolling on this.

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:11:20

Mercedes for the record, second.

Robert Stoldal:

05:11:23

We have a motion and we have a second. Further discussion?

Michelle Schmitter:

05:11:27

Yes. This is Michelle Schmitter, for the record. I do feel because we are using-- this is a huge dollar amount that's being requested and I agree with you, Bob, that we should

have more information in this request. I'm not ready to vote on this. Sorry.

Robert Stoldal:

05:11:51

Other comments?

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:11:53

Yeah. Mercedes, for the record. Is there an issue with the funds expiring?

funds, they will expire June 30th of 2023 and disappear and no longer be available.

Daphne DeLeon: Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Yes. So, out of the \$34,000 that we see out of general 05:11:58

?: 05:12:10 [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal:

So we would have to have a special meeting in advance of that date?

05:12:11

?: 05:12:14 I guess. Daphne DeLeon: Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Well in advance, if we have to go through RXQ

05:12:15 process to--

Robert Stoldal: Well, we could have a special meeting next week if we needed to. The key here is-

05:12:22 well, first of all, we do have a motion, we do have a second that we have to vote on.

Further discussion by the board? General public? And all those in favor of the motion

to proceed with the expenditure of \$56,000 say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:12:49

Aye.

?: 05:12:49 Aye.

Robert Stoldal: Those opposed?

05:12:51

Dan Markoff: 05:12:53 Nay.

Robert Stoldal:

05:12:54

Nay.

Courtney Mooney: Aye.

05:12:55

Michelle Schmitter: Nay.

05:12:56

?: 05:12:58 [inaudible]. [laughter]

Robert Stoldal: So I'd like to call for a-- whatever they use in the jury system.

05:12:59

Myron Freedman:

05:13:04

Roll call.

Harry Ward: 05:13:05 Roll call vote. For the record, Harry Ward. May I suggest, Mr. Chair, roll call vote.

Robert Stoldal: A roll call vote, please.

05:13:10

Harry Ward: 05:13:11 [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal: Thank you.

05:13:13

Daphne DeLeon: So, Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Debbie, could you please call each board

05:13:17 member's name and have them record their vote, either yay or nay.

Deb Rudo: 05:13:34 Okay. Deb Rudo, calling roll to get a yay or nay vote on the forklift. Robert Stoldal?

Robert Stoldal: No.

05:13:41

Deb Rudo: 05:13:44 Michelle Schmitter?

Michelle Schmitter: No.

05:13:47

Deb Rudo: 05:13:50 Sarah Cowie?

Sarah Cowie: 05:13:53 No.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:13:56

Anthony Timmons?

Anthony Timmons:

05:13:57

Yay.

Deb Rudo: 05:13:59

Doris Dwyer?

Doris Dwyer: 05:14:01

Yay.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:04

Dan Markoff?

Dan Markoff: 05:14:06

No.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:09

Robert Ostrovsky?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:14:11

Yes.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:13

Was that a yes?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:14:14

Yay.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:15

Jan Petersen?

Jan Petersen: 05:14:16

Yay.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:19

Seth Shore? Not [inaudible]. Courtney Mooney?

Courtney Mooney:

05:14:26

No.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:29

Mercedes De La Garza?

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:14:31

Yay.

Deb Rudo: 05:14:40

I have a tie. I've got five nays and five yays.

Myron Freedman:

05:14:47

I'm sticking with yay.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:14:52

So the motion is not [inaudible].

Harry Ward: 05:14:53

For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General. Motion does not pass.

Anthony Timmons:

05:14:58

Didn't have a majority.

Robert Stoldal:

05:15:03

Well, I'd like to be able to move forward on this important matter as quickly as we can. Myron, what do you think that you would be able to gather the information

necessary to-- so the board would have a full understanding of the piece of

equipment in the process that was used to narrow it down and how this would move

forward?

Myron Freedman:

05:15:28

Myron Freedman, for the record. I will check with Director Thielen as soon as he's available. I'm sure he could get this together in a few days. So if you wanted to schedule a meeting within a week or so, I think that would be sufficient. But I can get back to you tomorrow with how many days [crosstalk] how much time you need to do that.

Robert Stoldal:

05:15:55

All right. And along with that, I think there's a general feeling of the board that we need to move forward, that Dan wouldn't be making this request if it was not important, but I don't think we've got enough information to-- for at least half the board to understand the process being used so. Again, as quickly as you can share with the board the information as quickly as we can get a special meeting to take together, I'd like to do that. Let's move on then. Let's go back to where we were. Myron, unless you want to add anything more to this particular item.

Myron Freedman:

05:16:39

That's [inaudible]. Thank you, no.

Robert Stoldal:

05:16:46

I think we're at the 14. I'm using an old agenda. We are at the 14B, the Senate Finance Committee Chair Ostrovsky.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:17:07

Real guick, we never finished the ticket fees [inaudible].

Daphne DeLeon:

05:17:11

Oh, sorry.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:17:12

Mr. Chairman, we ever finished the ticket fees. So you did the special events, but you didn't cover the remainder of the ticket fees for the railroad operations, Christopher

MacMahon, for the record.

?: 05:17:24

Well, I'm sorry [inaudible].

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:17:27

We're looking for this one.

Robert Stoldal:

05:17:28

Christopher, which part did we miss?

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:17:32

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. You covered the special events, but you did not cover the general fees and the requested changes to some of those general fees. So, for example, change to the Ironhorse Rail Camp. Change to the motorcar school excursion in Carson City. The addition of a caboose ride fee in Boulder City, change to the engineer for an hour in Boulder City, change to the wedding trend charter Boulder City and changes to the general nonprofit charter, Boulder City. All of those have recommended changes presented to the board.

Robert Stoldal:

05:18:14

Dr. MacMahon, thank you very much for bringing us back on online. The \$2,000, that's for the wedding. Do you anticipate to-- what's your gut telling you the number of times we'll be able to do that?

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:18:28

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Where we get one or two a year, we actually had a meeting last month with the OBCDA and wedding event planners, and they said that between 2,000 and 3,000 is what they would recommend for an event venue. The 2,000 fee that we've proposed here, brings up the fee to be in line with what would be recommended by the people that plan these events. But also, insure that we're covering our cost, particularly on the staff side. Because doing weddings is very staff-intensive on our end.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:19:06

Would you have an issue if we allowed you to set the fee between 2 and 3 thousand

dollars?

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:19:14

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. The board sets the fees and it's up to your discretion at what price you'd want to set them. I'm just making a recommendation

based on what I think is necessary to cover our costs.

Robert Stoldal:

05:19:25

All right. To the board, I'd like it if we could do this in two parts. Let's take the upper part from the Railroad Museum in Carson City. Please review that and we'd look for a

motion to approve.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:19:41

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. Just so the board is aware of which events are

for Carson City, this would be increasing the Ironhorse Rail Camp fee to \$1,000. Changing the admission to the motorcar for school children from 2 to 3 dollars. I

believe that's all [crosstalk].

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:20:01

I think those are the only two.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:20:03

Yeah.

Robert Stoldal:

05:20:04

And everything else stays the same.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:20:08

Mr. Chairman.

Robert Stoldal:

05:20:09

Yes, please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:20:10

Anthony Timmons, for the record. So, at this time, there is no charge for the

Ironhorse Rail Camp?

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:20:18

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. I'm sorry, I'm trying to fill in for Director Thielen while he's been with the legislature, so this may be a new thing that he's

adding.

Anthony Timmons:

05:20:28

Okay.

Christopher

MacMahon: 05:20:29

So forgive me if I-- [inaudible] confusing you.

Anthony Timmons:

No, no, no. I didn't see any price, so. Anthony Timmons, for the record. Yeah, I could

see why so, I didn't see where you were charging or not.

Robert Stoldal:

05:20:39

05:20:33

I don't think we had one before.

Anthony Timmons:

05:20:41

Yeah, it might be a new program [inaudible]. I was just looking at it as changes. So,

excuse me for adding confusion to something that's already a little confusing.

?: 05:20:54 [inaudible] wrong with that.

Robert Stoldal:

05:20:56

I'm going to make a motion to approve the Carson City request railroad.

Dan Markoff: 05:21:05 Dan Markoff, second.

Robert Stoldal:

We have a motion, we have a second. Further discussion with the board? General

05:21:07

public? Hearing none, all those in favor, please say aye?

Dan Markoff: 05:21:18 Aye.

Jan Petersen: 05:21:18 Aye.

?: 05:21:18 Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 05:21:18 Aye.

Michelle Schmitter:

05:21:19

[inaudible].

Aye.

Myron Freedman: 05:21:20

Robert Stoldal:

05:21:22

Those opposed?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:21:24

[inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

05:21:25

Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. And let's move on then to the second half, the southern part of the state. The only thing that I would change would be, would make a motion to approve with the expansion of the wedding train. To expand it to give the director—to go from anywhere from 2 to 3 thousand dollars.

Jan Petersen: 05:22:03 So moved. Janet Petersen, for the record. So moved.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:22:08

We have a second?

Dan Markoff: 05:22:11 Dan Markoff, second.

Robert Stoldal:

I saw Doris Dwyer with a second.

05:22:13

Doris Dwyer: 05:22:16

Yes.

Robert Stoldal:

05:22:16

Further discussion by the board?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:22:18

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

05:22:21

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:22:21

I got a quick question. How are you going to determine if it's two or three?

Robert Stoldal:

05:22:26

I'm sorry?

Anthony Timmons:

05:22:27

How would you determine if that-- again, Anthony Timmons, for the record. How would you determine if it's 2,000 for the wedding train or 3,000, right? Is there any--?

Robert Stoldal:

05:22:35

It could be that there's additional things that they would request. The wedding train, they want to have it in another car. Or they may want to have food. Or they want to-whatever the cost would be and I use the figure 2 to 3 thousand based on what the Las Vegas Convention Authority is recommending, just to give the director some

latitude. We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion? Hearing none, all

those in favor, please say aye.

Dan Markoff: 05:23:07 Aye.

?: 05:23:08 Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 05:23:08 Aye.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

[inaudible] micromanaged, and now we can take our [crosstalk] [laughter]

05:23:10

Robert Stoldal: Those opposed? Motion carried unanimously [laughter] with the Chair voting in favor.

05:23:12 You know sometimes the microphones do work. [laughter]

?: 05:23:25 Yeah.

Christopher

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MacMahon: 05:23:26

Robert Stoldal: And Director, thank you for bringing this back up and making sure that we-- the board

covered that. Now can we move to the Standing Finance Committee 14B?

Dan Markoff: 05:23:44 Yeah, Mr. Chairman--

Robert Ostrovsky:

Mr. Chairman, Bob--

05:23:44

05:23:29

Dan Markoff: 05:23:45 Excuse me.

Robert Ostrovsky:

Bob Ostrovsky. I'm sorry.

05:23:46

Robert Stoldal: Go ahead, Dan.

05:23:47

Dan Markoff: 05:23:48 Excuse me. I got to leave, Mr. Chairman. Will you still have a quorum?

Robert Stoldal:

I think we do. How many--?

05:23:53

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:24:01

05:24:02

Do you need seven?

Myron Freedman:

Yeah, we do-- should still have seven. [crosstalk] Michelle's there. We'll have seven,

Chair. We're fine.

Robert Stoldal:

All right, Dan. Thank you. I appreciate and understanding your challenge.

05:24:08

Dan Markoff: 05:24:12 Okay. Thank you. See you later.

Robert Stoldal:

Bye. Chair Ostrovsky.

05:24:14

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:24:17

Yeah, Mr. Chairman, just a quick update. You included in your packet was this information but for the record, this is as of December 31st. The restricted fund balance was \$2,831,186. The unrestricted fund balance was \$1,031,214.43. No unusual activity there. We won't see another report until we get a quarterly report, which is at the end of this month or the first quarter of the year. The markets have done a little better but not-- went up and went down again. I don't expect it will have much news there. But I do hear a lot of questions about tracking the revenue, [inaudible] revenue in Boulder City back to the institution. I will include that in the agenda for the finance committee, which is the third item on this agenda to make sure that we get a full report to the board on the tracking of those dollars so we get a clearer and better understanding of how that money is circulated back to the institution, if it is all circulated back, or whether or not the general fund is being enhanced in any way by those funds. But that, just for the record, those are the numbers. There are no unusual activity unless the agency. You have any usual—any comments to make about any unusual activity? I don't believe there was any. So that's my short report. You'll get a much longer one at the next meeting with the finals on the first quarter and the entire budget package.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:26:21

Questions?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:26:23

Chair, Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Just a point of information. So the IFC report will go before IFC at their next meeting which will be June. Just to let you know. But this will go to June and then at the September meeting, I will have the IFC report for the entire fiscal year to present to the board to approve.

Robert Stoldal:

05:26:47

I apologize, I did not-- Daphne, the report that's going to IFC, we will see that before it

goes to IFC?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:27:06

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. That is correct. You'll see it at the September board meeting. Once you approve it, then I will move it forward to the next IFC meeting.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:27:16

When are they due for the-- to the IFC?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:27:21

So the report that we send out separately, the IFC report, this one here is for the first six months of fiscal year '23. If it's approved today, I will move it forward to the

governor's finance office to be put on the June IFC.

Robert Stoldal:

05:27:38

All right. Unfortunately, it was not in the mail packet, so I need to go online-- has

everybody had a chance to see the--?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:27:51

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. I did send out the additional three documents the membership documents both the original policy and the recommended edits plus the

IFC report. I believe I sent that out Tuesday if you're looking through your email.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:28:08

Right.

Robert Stoldal:

05:28:12

Do all the board members have the IFC report?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:28:17

Yes.

?: 05:28:18

[inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

I seem to have it here, Chair.

05:28:19

?: 05:28:45

[inaudible].

Myron Freedman:

05:28:48

So you're looking for state [inaudible].

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:28:52

Daphne, this is the first time the board has seen his report ever?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:28:58

Daphne DeLeon, as long as I have been here, that is correct.

Myron Freedman:

05:29:03

Myron Freedman, for the record--

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:29:04

And it would be-- yeah.

Myron Freedman:

05:29:06

Myron Freedman, for the record. This would've been something that Carrie would have presented twice a year. And then we were without the ASO for a while and now

we're getting back on track with this.

Robert Stoldal:

05:29:21

Without going back in history, this is the first time this board has seen this report.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:29:27

Right.

Myron Freedman:

05:29:29

Okay.

Robert Stoldal:

05:29:31

And so we appreciate that. I just want to call it up. So if you could, since this is the first time the board has seen this report, Daphne, maybe if you could move a little bit closer to the microphone or sit where Myron is because this is an important report. Could you just sort of quickly walk through what we are seeing here? I think it's relatively self-explanatory but if you could do that?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:30:01

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Certainly Chair. So as you see, the report is set up by revenue expenditure for all the funds that are at [district?] treasurer. And the last section is an update on the Morgan Stanley fund. But let me roll back up to revenue. If you look at the first four lines, you'll see the breakout of restricted and unrestricted funds that are being balanced forward. These match the the prior reports. And they also match what the board has approved for the fiscal year '23 with some minor adjustments based on final balance forwards that I did in August to close up the accounts. Everything else, all the revenue is as of December 31st that was received. It's totaled up by museum and budget account. You'll see above the narrative title for the museum. At the top of the column, you'll see the budget account number.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:31:00

That is the revenue section. The expenditure section is the same thing as of December 31st. It goes through each of the categories and what has been expended. And then what it does for the difference, it takes what has been expended versus money, revenue that's in, and it shows the difference, so they're all of the positive. Then the investment accounts, the very last three lines, that is the breakout of the Morgan Stanley funds. And that's based on the monthly reports that Bob and I received. I put it into the spreadsheet and it tracks it. And those are the numbers as of December 31st. I'm available for any questions anyone may have. Thank you, Chair.

Robert Stoldal:

05:31:49

Just a quick question, and please forgive us Daphne. We jumped from fiscal year 2022

to 2024. What happened to 2023?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:32:05

So in the first two lines, that money that's being balanced forward from '22 actually is the money that's in '23. And so in the next report that you'll see for the entire fiscal

year, you'll still see the money that was balanced from '22 to '23 but you'll also see

what is moving out from '23 to '24.

Robert Stoldal:

05:32:28

All right, okay. So this is just for the last-- the first six months of fiscal '22.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:32:37

Chair, that is correct. It's July 1st through December 31st of 2022.

Robert Stoldal:

05:32:50

And so there's the coin press and I know we're going to get a report on that in June.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:32:59

One thing I will note of interest to you under revenue, if you look under "Friends of the Railroad" you'll see under 537 \$114,373. That is significantly higher than what we had put in the budget because that includes the repayment of the expenses that the board fronted for the Great Western Steam Up. So that's always great to see. Thumbs

up.

Anthony Timmons:

05:33:41

Mr. Chairman?

Robert Stoldal:

05:33:43

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:33:44

Anthony Timmons, for the record. I have two questions for you, Daphne. First of all,

we work on a cash basis as opposed to [inaudible]?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:33:54

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. That's correct.

Anthony Timmons:

05:33:58

Second thing-- Anthony Timmons for the record. Second question is, essentially, this

is just a statement of cash flows.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:34:05

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. That is correct. According to NRS, we need to report

up to IFC, basically what our fiscal health is every six months.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:34:16

Okay, thank you. Anthony Timmons for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

05:34:18

Other questions for the board?

Jan Petersen: 05:34:20

05:34:20 Are we healthy?

Robert Stoldal:

05:34:23

Just a Daphne-- I'm sorry, go ahead.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:34:26

healthy, but we could be healthier.

Robert Stoldal:

Will you be making this presentation in person?

05:34:34

Daphne DeLeon:

05:34:40

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. No. I will note that I am always available via Zoom during IFC and for the last two reports that I was available for testimony, because it

I was just responding to Jan's question if we are healthy. I would say yes, we are

goes under informational items, I usually get no questions from IFC.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:35:02

Okay. The reason I'm asking if and when you do get questions, it would be helpful for the board to understand what the legislatures are-- have an interest in or what their

concerns are. So this is great. Thank you very much for this.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:35:17

Sure. You're welcome. Definitely Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

05:35:25

The next item is 14 B3, and that's the appointment of Michelle Schmitter as the board finance-- part of the board finance committee. I make a motion to appoint Michelle as

a member of that committee. Doris?

Doris Dwyer: 05:35:47

This is Doris Dwyer. I make a motion to approve Michelle Schmitter to this committee.

Robert Stoldal:

05:35:53

We have a second?

Jan Petersen: 05:35:54

I second.

Robert Stoldal: 05:35:56

We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion? General public? Hearing

none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:36:05

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 05:36:07

Michelle Schmitter:

05:36:08

Aye. Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

05:36:09

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously, with the Chair voting in favor. And I speak for the chair of the finance committee, who speaks for himself to welcome Michelle and appreciate that. Now let's move on to item B4, which is setting the date

for the finance committee.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:36:30

Mr. Chairman, Bob Ostrovsky, for the record. Could we have staff-- we're meeting June 8th and 9th. I need to know from them how much time they need prior to that date for us to finalize those budget numbers for them. So we could talk about dates.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:36:49

Daphne DeLeon, for the record.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:36:52

We can't hear you.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:36:53

Oh, sorry. Daphne DeLeon for the record. Looking at the calendar, I think we should set our finance committee meeting date the second week of May, which is the week of May 8th. That will give me three weeks to finalize the budget and still hit the deadline to mail out packets for the June 8th and 9th meeting in Las Vegas.

Robert Stoldal:

05:37:21

Bob, what would be a-- so the week of the 7th or the 14th?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:37:32

Is that what she's suggesting? The week of the 7th or the 14th?

Daphne DeLeon:

05:37:37

Yes. Daphne DeLeon, for the record. The week of the 7th would be better.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:37:42

The week of the 7th.

Robert Stoldal:

Well, let me go around. Anthony, is there a date that works for you, either the week

05:37:43

of Monday the 8th or the 15th?

Anthony Timmons:

05:37:51

Anthony Timmons, for the record. Mr. Chairman, let me take a look. Can I get back to

you? Let me take a quick look.

Robert Stoldal:

05:38:00

I didn't hear those dates.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:38:03

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons for the record, let me take a quick look. I have to

look on my calendar.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:38:10

Mr. Chairman, Bob Ostrovsky. If I had a preference, it would all be-- it would be on a

Wednesday, but Friday the 12th is okay too. So the 10th, the 17th, or the 12th are

days that work for me the best?

Robert Stoldal:

Michelle Schmitter:

05:38:24

The 10th and the 12th are best for me. Michelle, welcome.

Thank you. I can do the 10th and the 12th as well.

05:38:31

Robert Stoldal:

05:38:37

Who else do we have on the board for the committee?

Myron Freedman:

05:38:41

Anthony Timmons. He's checking his calendar right now.

Robert Stoldal:

05:38:46

I thought we had one more, chair.

Myron Freedman:

05:38:51

I don't think so. [inaudible].

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:38:55

I did too. Who are we replacing? Are we adding?

Robert Stoldal:

05:39:04

Was it Jan? I thought Jan or no?

Myron Freedman:

05:39:08

Years ago, you had-- her last name was Diamond

Robert Stoldal:

05:39:12

Renee Diamond?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:39:13

Renee Diamond. But I thought we replaced Renee.

Robert Stoldal:

05:39:17

Yeah.

Anthony Timmons:

Mr. Chairman. Anthony Timmons for the record. It looks like the morning of the 10th

or the 12th both work for me, sir.

Robert Stoldal:

05:39:32

05:39:22

Why don't we shoot for the 10th, if that's okay with you?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:39:35

Yeah. The 10th would be fine, Mr. Chairman.

Robert Stoldal:

And you want to try 8 o'clock or 9?

05:39:38

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:39:41

Sure. Earlier in the morning. Better get it done. That's fine.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

05:39:47

All right. That was relatively straightforward. We will meet then. I don't think-- is that

an item? It is, yeah. Why don't you go ahead and make that as a motion.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:40:05

Mr. Chairman, this is Bob Ostrovsky. I would move that the finance committee meet on May, is it May 10th, at 8:00 AM in the morning for its finance committee meeting.

Robert Stoldal:

05:40:21

Great. I'll second that. Further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:40:34

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

05:40:36

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting with the group

present and those online. Great. Any last words of wisdom?

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:40:50

No, we're good to go. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

05:40:52

Okay, let's move on then to item 14C, the Standing Museum store, Jan Petersen. I'll

let you move forward with this.

Jan Petersen: 05:41:02

Jan Petersen for the record, I'm turning the entire floor over to Daphne, and while she's walking around to our Owl, I want to thank Sarah Cowie, and Doris, and the Chair for steadfastly proceeding with this on and leading us to the point that we're at

now.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:41:32

So, Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Thank you, Jan, for ceding the floor to me. At our December meeting, the online store funding proposal phase I was approved with

funding specifically allocated to each of the museums to start to purchase their online merchandise. But also, \$13,000 was approved to develop a website development contract. I had three vendors that came forth. The contract that you see with Web2Market was the winning proposal for a couple reasons. If you look actually in attachment one, which is their proposal on page 12, there are two things I want to point out. One was training. It is going to be virtual training, but they're offering to train up to four staff people, a total of eight hours on all the administrative functions

for the website. So that is a great selling point for me. I wanted to make sure that our staff had the knowledge to be able to manage the website at a certain level, day to

day.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:42:41

Additionally to that, underneath training you'll see hosting. Hosting is \$179 a month. It notes what it includes but this is what's really important. During the development

stage, you're not charged that hosting fee. To me it sounded logical. Why would we be charged a hosting fee when our website wasn't developed. But because other vendors, other proposals had told me, "We're going to charge you from day one this monthly hosting fee because it's going to be resident on our development site as we're developing it." So this proposal, Web2Market, is saying we're not going to do that. We are not going to charge you the hosting fee until 30 days after the delivery of the product. So that will be-- they're going to deliver in June. That will be in July of fiscal year '24. I think it makes sense. I think it's logical. It's cost effective. And it also

Daphne DeLeon:

05:43:45

Something that I do want to point out to you is this vendor. I spoke all of the vendors online and also via the phone to talk about their proposals. This vendor, by and large,

aligns with our budget build for '24 where we could build that hosting cost in.

was the strongest in terms of the questions that they asked, and I was also able to meet the project manager. We also met with the proposed project manager very quickly on. They're committed to hitting the June 30th deadline, and they're also committed to [inaudible] if we are able to-- if the board approves the contract today and I contact them tomorrow, they're going to do their best to actually complete the proposal, complete the website by June 1st. I kind of, Chair, wrapped an update up with item two in terms of the contract.

Daphne DeLeon: 05:44:41

One thing I will say is once this contract is approved, if it is approved by the board, we move into the implementation phase. And this implementation phase will really focus on two things, reinvigorating the working group to get them going to make sure that they're purchasing the materials that are going online, getting trained and meeting with the vendor in order to get their input about what's going on the website, and also starting to take pictures and create content description of all the materials that are going to go online. This is also where we will include membership. And so Anthony, we would include you, invite you to the kickoff meeting, and also staff that work with membership to get a better idea of how best to set up that function. When the board institutes the new membership policy July 1st, we have an aligned online pathway for that, also. So, with that, Chair and board, I'm available for questions.

Robert Stoldal: 05:45:43

Good. We have two issues-- or, actually, one to vote on. That's the contract. But in advance to that, what date will I be able to buy something from the online store?

Daphne DeLeon: 05:45:53

So you will be able to buy something from the online store-- I don't know the exact

date, but the earliest will be June 1st, and the latest will be June 30th.

Robert Stoldal:

Okay. So sometime in June of--

05:46:02

Daphne DeLeon:

05:46:06

Yes.

Robert Stoldal:

05:46:07

--next year-- or, this year. This year.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:46:09

Yes, 2023.

Robert Stoldal:

05:46:15

Well, I was speaking to another board member. It's just exciting to see this move forward and get so close to being able to have this important element of the museum system on. Open it up for questions. Janet, just to throw it to you. Is there anything you want to add at this juncture?

Jan Petersen: 05:46:39

Jan Petersen, for the record. I just want to thank Daphne for all of her work that is done on this. We talked for a year and a half before she came on board, and we learned a lot about a lot of other online possibilities, and this is by far the smoothest, over Amazon or Shopify or independently doing it. This is a much more coordinated effort, and workable.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Please Michelle-- or, Mercedes?

05:47:17

Mercedes De La Garza:

05:47:20

Yeah, Mercedes for the record. This is a really terrific price for the amount of services

So Daphne DeLeon, for the record. One thing I will note board is when I was speaking

that you get. I'm very impressed with this.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:47:28 with the vendors initially, I let them know that we're a nonprofit with a certain

97

constraint in terms of funding that was available. So this vendor, actually the sales rep was able to negotiate a special price for us by noting that they wanted to get into the nonprofit market. They wanted to get into the museum market. So they were willing to lower their price so it would fit within our budget. I should say, Chair, Daphne DeLeon for the record, that the other vendors did also. They were very, very good about being supportive for what we wanted to do and supporting our mission, but this proposal by far was the one that was the best detailed out and I think would give us our staff the best training and able to really manage day to day and not be, quote-unquote, "held hostage by the vendor".

Robert Stoldal:

So we have an action item and that's to approve the contract, Jan?

05:48:31

Jan Petersen: 05:48:41 Jan Petersen, for the record. I move that this contract be accepted as proposed. Yes I

am, C2

is that correct?

Mercedes De La Garza:

14 C2.

05:48:55

Jan Petersen: 05:48:57 14 C2.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

We have a motion. Do we have a second?

05:48:59

Doris Dwyer: 05:49:04 This is Doris Dwyer, for the record. I second the motion.

Robert Stoldal:

We have a motion and we have a second to accept the contract that's in your board

packet as written. This is item 14 C2. Further discussion of the board?

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:49:28

05:49:08

Mr. Chairman, Anthony Timmons, for the record.

Robert Stoldal:

05:49:30

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:49:31

I have a quick question. It says that, in the proposal that it goes through the end of

February. I guess that's been extended.

Daphne DeLeon:

05:49:38

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Thank you for pointing that out. Yes, it has been extended. And if you look at the contract, the contract has [inaudible] June 30th,

2023. Thank you.

Robert Stoldal:

05:49:51

General public? Comments? Seeing none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

05:49:58

Aye.

Michelle Schmitter:

05:49:58

Aye.

?: 05:49:59

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

05:50:00

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. And echo the words of the chair of the store committee regarding the work that Daphne has done in this project and moving along to the point to where we will have an online

store sometime in June of this year, so.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:50:25

Mr. Chairman.

Robert Stoldal:

05:50:26

Please.

**Anthony Timmons:** 

05:50:27

Anthony Timmons, for the record. I'd just like to make a side note and say we're checking out a lot of the boxes you came to the board with, sir, and asked us to perform and accomplish some of these tasks, the membership tasks, the hosting of the website task. And I think we're checking out your boxes, sir.

Robert Stoldal:

05:50:45

Great. Yeah, I think we are. And we will know within six months, within a very short period of time, how well, what opportunities we may have with the store to expand that operation to move. There are many different ways to handle it, and there are many different museums that do it in different ways. One of the special challenges that we have is we have six museums. While you may be a standalone museum, a certain system may just work for your one museum, but we have Daphne and Janet, how to work on what works for six as we move forward, and the same thing that the membership committee has been working on. How do we unify that to a state system? So look forward to the end of this year to see where we are on all of these and how well they're working and what opportunities we have. Item 15 is our museum store reports. First up is the Lost City Museum. Do we have the director with

us?

Tracey Sprague:

05:51:53

I'm here.

Robert Stoldal:

05:51:54

Welcome.

Tracey Sprague:

05:51:56

Hi.

Robert Stoldal:

05:51:56

And how are things in Overton?

Tracey Sprague:

05:52:00

Things are good in Overton. Oh, this is Tracey Sprague, for the record. Things are good

in Overton.

Robert Stoldal:

05:52:03

How's the weather been up there, which has been crazy for the rest of the state?

Tracey Sprague:

05:52:07

Yeah. And no snow, luckily, but, I mean, but windy. A little chilly but nothing crazy.

Robert Stoldal:

05:52:13

Does that impact the visitors?

Tracey Sprague: I don't feel like it's been impacted. No.

05:52:15

Robert Stoldal:

Okay. Great. Is there anything in your report that you want to make sure that the

board is aware of?

Tracey Sprague:

05:52:24

05:52:17

I guess I should announce that we did recently hire a new staff member. We have a new employee who is helping in the retail store. And then we are set to do interviews

for the Curator II position in about a week in a half.

Robert Stoldal:

Questions by the board? Anybody online? Board member have a question?

05:52:40

Sarah Kelly: 05:52:48

Mr. Chairman?

Robert Stoldal:

05:52:49

Please.

Sarah Kelly: 05:52:50

Sarah Kelly, for the record. Thanks for the report. It's good to see the details. I had a couple of questions. Looking for a little bit more detail. When was a question about-- I see there was a bone ID workshop on October 6th. Can you tell me a little bit more about that? I see it was done for law enforcement. I know those kinds of things are important service to law enforcement to make sure they can tell the difference between different types of bone. Can you please describe that a little bit more for us?

Tracey Sprague:

05:53:21

I sure can. So Tracey Sprague, for the record. Our archeologist, Virginia Lucas, she's an expert in bones and so she regularly goes out into the community to do bone ID workshops, as you said, primarily with law enforcement. And especially in this case with Lake Mead, based on the need they've had recently with the drops in the waters in the lake.

Sarah Kelly: 05:53:41

All right. Thank you. Do you know what kind of teaching materials she's using for that? And I'm just asking because of cases in the news recently where there's been public outcry over using, especially Native American remains, for teaching purposes, which has been-- just this week you may have read about a case at UC Berkeley where Berkeley University became-- put a moratorium on using ancestral remains for teaching purposes. And I just want to check and make sure everything's okay there.

Tracey Sprague: 05:54:17

Yeah. To the best of my knowledge, actually, majority of what she uses is actually animal bone just to show us how certain animals might be confusing and look similar to human, but ultimately aren't, and this is how they're not. So a lot of it, to my knowledge, is actually animal and not human, per se. I might be wrong. She's not here to verify with me, but yeah.

Sarah Kelly: 05:54:37

Yeah. I would probably just pose that question to maybe follow up on that. If there are any human remains whatsoever being used, I think the current best practice is to make sure they are ethically sourced.

Tracey Sprague:

05:54:52

Sourced. Yeah.

Sarah Kelly: 05:54:54

If there's a better word for that, I don't know, but donated-- cadaver donations by consent or something like that, or the relatives consent to use those remains, but there've been so many cases nationwide. It's just something I want to make sure to pay attention to.

Tracey Sprague: 05:55:10

Tracey Sprague, for the record. Definitely as an institution that's currently dealing with NAGPRA-related stuff, we absolutely are very conscious of that, and I can't imagine she would ever do anything like that. So to the best of my knowledge, all the bones are either ethically sourced or they're primarily animal.

Sarah Kelly: 05:55:26

Okay. Thank you. And just a follow-up question, you mentioned NAGPRA, and that was my other question, and it's probably my question for any museums that are dealing with NAGPRA now. Just wondering if I could put in a request, this may be a broader request for the administrator, but just to see if each museum who is involved with NAGPRA could include that as a subsection of their quarterly reports. What

specific activities have they or your staff undertaken to try to help out Anna Camp? It's a big project and she can't do it all. And I know museums staff are trying to contribute to that process and help her out, but just sort of curious if we could get a report of specific activities that I know you all are working on. It'd be good to see.

Tracey Sprague:

05:56:16

Tracey Sprague, for the record. We do have regular reports. So I have my staff give me updates. So if you need you know that information, I can easily get it to you. I do have records and have physical copies of the reports that they give me.

Sarah Kelly: 05:56:31

Thank you. I mean, I don't know if I have the authority to say, yes, do that. But as an individual board member, I would like to see that in our quarterly reports, if that's possible.

Robert Stoldal: 05:56:41

I think it is. At this point, we'll just simply make it a request that Myron can pass along. And if it needs a full board motion to get that done, we'll do that in June. But I would just think this could be administratively handled simply as a request to Myron to pass along. That's something the board would like to be aware of, as well as your first point. I don't know how many museums have any sort of educational programs regarding bones, but it would be nice to know that we have a policy of not using human remains. Unless, as I think you pointed out, there's a couple of categories that they're approved by the family or whatever. That, to me, is something that just makes sense. I mean, we should have that as a policy and would hope that Myron-- although I'm not sure that the railroad museums have any sort of-- but there may be some way that we should just formalize that procedure. And if you have a link to the change and who made the change in California, if it's possible to send that out to the board, just so we have a better understanding of how things stand. Great. Thank you. Other questions or comments? How are we doing with the Lost City? I don't know you-- is it restoration of the pueblos?

Tracey Sprague: 05:58:31

Tracey Sprague, for the record. I recently talked to Kirsten from Public Works. They did finalize the report, they're just waiting to give it to me. I was just in conversation with her, I want to say it was last week. So hopefully in the near future we'll be able to reopen the pueblos once they're reloaded.

Robert Stoldal: 05:58:49

What's the report consist of? What's the report about?

Tracey Sprague: 05:58:52

e: Tracey Sprague, for the record. The report was originally about the structural engineer regarding the structural integrity of both the pit house and the pueblos. And

it [crosstalk]--

Robert Stoldal:

I'm sure that that's a public document but if any board member-- I would like to be

able to read that.

Tracey Sprague:

Once I obtain it, I can--

05:59:12

05:59:03

Robert Stoldal: Of course.

05:59:14

Tracey Sprague: Yeah, send it out. Yeah.

05:59:15

**Robert Stoldal:** 

All right. Anything else out of Lost City? The board? If not, thank you very much.

05:59:17

**Tracey Sprague:** 

05:59:29

I do have some items for--

Robert Stoldal:

05:59:30

Let me go through, just get back to the agenda. The first one is item 15 A1, request

for free admission days. Would you please go over that?

Tracey Sprague:

05:59:44

So some of this might be a little redundant because I know most of these [inaudible] but some of them are specific to us. We do have a biannual kids' days. We just have free admission for the adults that bring the children. Next, we have one [inaudible] this month and also one usually in fall, usually around October. And then we have our Hot and Dusty closing reception, usually held in the evening. We're just looking to be

able to let people in, in the evening for the closing reception of the Hot and Dusty. And then we've moved our Native American Day to sometime this fall. Previously, it was in Spring of last year. But due to the construction going on with the CIP with the restroom restoration, we decided to push Native American Day back until Fall. And then annually, we have our holiday open house, which is always in December.

Robert Stoldal:

06:00:37

Okay. Question from the board? If you have any just guesstimate of the number of

people that would total attending these?

Tracey Sprague:

06:00:52

Tracey Sprague, for the record. Usually for our kids' days, we'll get anywhere from 20 to 40 kids plus their adults, so we're around 50, 60 people. And then for Native American Day, we get upwards of 300 people that day. We were trying to look to

expand, but we're kind of hitting the wall in regards to our space, so I don't know how it's going to work out for this fall. Then our holiday open house, we at least see about

100, 150 people.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:01:24

Chair?

Robert Stoldal:

06:01:25

Please.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:01:26

Mercedes, for the record. I move to approve the requested date, free admission dates

for calendar year 2023.

Jan Petersen: 06:01:36

Jan Petersen, second.

Robert Stoldal:

06:01:36

We have a motion, do we have a second? Jan Petersen.

Jan Petersen: 06:01:39

Yep.

Robert Stoldal:

Further discussion? All those in favor, please say aye.

06:01:40

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:01:45

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 06:01:46

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. The next item is 15A, the donation, the Laodecian Council, \$357.73. Would look for a motion.

Doris Dwyer: 06:02:06

Doris Dwyer, for the record. I move to approve the donation of \$357.73.

Mercedes De La Garza:

Mercedes, for the record, second.

06:02:16

06:01:47

Robert Stoldal:

06:02:18

Further discussion? General public? Hearing none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:02:26

Aye.

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 06:02:27

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:02:29

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair of voting in favor. Next item is 15 A4, no, A3, \$375 again from Laodecian Council. Look for a motion to

approve?

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:02:50

Mercedes for the record. Move to approve, \$375 restricted donation acceptance.

Jan Petersen: 06:02:56

Second. Jan Petersen.

Don't ask. Don't know.

Robert Stoldal:

06:02:58

We have a motion, we have a second. Further discussion by the board? General

public? Hearing none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:03:07

Aye.

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 06:03:07

Robert Stoldal:

06:03:08

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. Item 15.4, donation, by Caproney, Trust, \$16,666.67. I have to ask the question, why all the

sixes?

Myron Freedman:

06:03:34

I didn't see them until you started talking about it.

Jan Petersen: 06:03:39

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:03:41

Mercedes for the record. Motion to approve the amount of \$16,666.67.

Jan Petersen: 06:03:49

Jan Petersen, second.

Robert Stoldal:

06:03:52

All right, this is to accept the check number 1077 in the amount of 16,666.67. Further

discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, please say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:04:09

Aye.

Sarah Cowie: 06:04:10

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

06:04:12

Those opposed? I apologize. I don't mean to make light of this, but this is a significant amount of money. Could you explain a little bit who these people are that provided

this money?

Anthony Timmons:

06:04:25

Tracey Sprague, for the record. To be honest with you, we don't know. This originally, when the trust contacted the museum, Marybeth was still the director. Obviously, the check came after I became director. To my knowledge, they just liked the museum and decided after they-- to donate their money. I don't know anything about them, to

be totally honest with you. Not much, anyway.

Robert Stoldal:

06:04:52

Well, the last name of the-- Amy Harrington.

Tracey Sprague:

06:04:58

Yes.

Robert Stoldal: 06:04:58

That's a familiar name in Lost City.

00.04.30

Tracey Sprague:

06:05:02

Yes, it is. Tracey Sprague, for the record. I don't know if she's related to Mark, but it might not be a coincidence. I'm not completely sure, but yeah. Other than knowing that they were artists and they had their own printing press, I really don't know anything about the family.

anything about t

Robert Stoldal:

06:05:18

All right.

Harry Ward: 06:05:19 For the record, Harry Ward.

Robert Stoldal:

06:05:21

Go ahead.

Harry Ward: 06:05:25 For the record, Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, and Mr. Chair I don't know if

you had finished but just throwing out the numbers, looks like 50,000 was split in thirds. That's why we have so many sixes. [laughter] So that's just my speculation.

Robert Stoldal:

06:05:39

Okay. Well, that makes sense. But I would also-- I mean, that's a nice piece of change and be able to send a thank you letter. So Tracey I would ask you, is if you could just do a little bit of research back up to Amy Harrington and find out why we're the beneficiaries of this and be able to say thank you to somebody along the line, I think would be helpful with that. And I'm sure Myron would agree. We voted on this matter

I think already, did we not?

Myron Freedman:

06:06:15

Yes.

Robert Stoldal:

06:06:16

Okay. Great. That's good news. And let's move on to the next item. Which is 15B, Nevada State Museum in Las Vegas. Do you have that before you? And is Hollis

Gillespie by any chance with us?

Deb Rudo: 06:06:40 She may have run away.

Myron Freedman:

06:06:41

I think Hollis-- Myron Freedman, for the record. I think she may have a medical

situation going on.

Robert Stoldal:

06:06:52

Situation going on.

know that Myron could answer just anything in this report?

Myron Freedman:

06:07:06

Let me see [inaudible]. Oh no, it's May 9. I'm not sure where she is. Let me see if she's

I threw this to the board. Are there any questions that you see in the full report, that I

around.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Looks like the numbers for the attendance were up in July, August, September,

06:07:22 slipped a little bit in October and November, but back up in January.

[silence]

Robert Stoldal:

Daphne, on the attendance receipts, maybe I'm just not learning to read this properly,

06:07:57 but why are all those zeros there?

Daphne DeLeon:

06:08:04

Daphne DeLeon, for the record. Attendance receipts are governed by the agreement with the Springs Reserve and there is a minimum pre-payment of \$53,740. Usually it

comes in July, but you can see this fiscal year it came in August and so all the other months are zero.

Myron Freedman:

06:08:32

Hollis is on her way.

Robert Stoldal:

06:08:36

So what do we have to do to break the 53 number or-- I mean, how many people do

we have to get before we get additional revenue for the attendance?

Daphne DeLeon:

06:08:54

So according to the agreement that's in place, that's being reviewed now, we set, we get a minimum payment of \$53,740 or 10% of each general admission ticket. Because of COVID and because the general admission ticket, I think, right now, is maybe \$9, I'm looking at the administrator Freedman for confirmation.

Myron Freedman:

06:09:20

Myron Freedman, for the record. Plus they're not-- they're still ramping up their operating days. Hollis will be on here in just a second.

Hollis Gillespie:

06:09:33

I'm on. I'm on.

Robert Stoldal:

06:09:36

Hollis, we were just looking at the attendance chart, and for this past January, it shows you're up more than about 1,600 people, which is significant. But then that turned into a question about how much money the museum gets from the Friendsnot the Friends, the Springs Preserve. And it's sort of locked in, and then the question was, how high do you have to get as far as attendance to the museum before you start generating additional revenue?

Hollis Gillespie: 06:10:15

You've got several questions embedded there. First, it doesn't matter how many people more we get in attendance because our current interlocal that we're still working on revising, is an annual stipend that has remained the same. So that doesn't make a difference. What I'm trying to do are two things. One, I'm trying to get an absolute increase in visitors here, but I'm also trying to have a greater penetration of picking off people from their visitors. So we're just starting to track how many they get and what percentage. And when I started, we were getting between 3 and 5 percent. I can attribute a lot of that to just still COVID confusion. But now we're starting to get between 33 and some days 40 percent of the people that come to Springs, make it up to the museum. Yes, I would like it to have a dollar amount associated with it, and we're trying to figure out a way that makes sense.

Robert Stoldal: 06:11:22

Is there any way to track just the unique visitors to the museum and not to the Springs?

Hollis Gillespie: 06:11:28

I haven't found a way yet because I've been working with them. They've just, as of March 1st, gone back to an in-state price for visitors and an out-of-state, which is about double. And they haven't tracked how many they've got very clearly yet. I've got some raw zip code data, but I don't have a year to cipher through it. The other thing to know about their general attendance, and I think maybe I sent that also to Daphne and to Myron last week or week before, is that most of the people-- not most. I'm saying good, significant under 38 or 40 percent that come across the Springs are their members or are members. So that's a big chunk.

Robert Stoldal: 06:12:23

Anything else you want to make sure that the board is aware of? I know you don't have any action items, but is there anything you would like to make sure that the board is aware of that has occurred in the first quarter and this coming up?

Hollis Gillespie:

06:12:36

I think I'd like to make the board aware that we're finally getting some staffing. We had a registrar start this week. We have an exhibits prepared or starting on the 20th, and I'm 99.9% sure we'll have an educator on the 2nd of April, so we should be in a really good position to manage our programs, make some unique experiences. Plus we are planning to open and exhibit our Liberace in mid-June.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:13:09

Hollis, how close are you to pre-COVID days, staffing?

Hollis Gillespie:

06:13:14

I don't know the percentage. I would say that the positions that we have open are more in the museum attendant range. We do have a medical absence and we had a couple people. We replaced the security guard, but we lost a custodian. So there are

still a couple that we're working on.

Robert Stoldal:

06:13:39

Myron, are there any positions that were frozen that are still frozen?

Myron Freedman:

06:13:45

Myron Freedman, for the record. No.

Hollis Gillespie:

06:13:48

Yes. Just one.

Robert Stoldal:

06:13:50

Nobody does.

Myron Freedman:

06:13:53

[inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

06:13:56

Myron, I can't hear you and I can't see you with the-- are there any positions frozen? First of all, at the Las Vegas Museum that we need to that are in the process of being

unfrozen?

Myron Freedman:

06:14:13

Myron Freedman. Can you hear me now, Bob?

Robert Stoldal:

06:14:16

Yes.

Myron Freedman:

06:14:17

Hollis, correct me if I'm wrong, but I guess we have one of your museum store

personnel, correct? That the board--

Hollis Gillespie:

06:14:27

Yes, there's a point eight, one or eight free percent retail storekeeper that's been frozen. And I spoke to Daphne and I think she said that in the next budgeting cycle we

would need to find a way to put that before the board again for consideration.

Robert Stoldal:

Okay, but that's out of the private funds. Out of the general funds, there are no

positions still frozen?

Hollis Gillespie:

None that I'm aware of.

06:14:57

06:14:59

06:14:51

Robert Stoldal:

Great, okay. Other questions for the director? And again, the last opportunity. Is there

anything else you want to make sure the board is aware of?

Hollis Gillespie:

I've already talked too much.

06:15:14

Robert Stoldal: 06:15:16

No, you haven't. Okay, all right. Thank you. With no action items, let's move on to 15C, the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. And the first question to the director. Is there anything you want to make sure, in this board report, that the board is aware of? Anything you want to highlight?

Josh Bonde: 06:15:49

Josh Bonde, for the record. I guess I would just highlight that the museum is healthy. We're seeing admissions at or above pre-COVID levels. Our museum store is doing outstanding. Membership sales are surpassing expectations right now, and we're getting re-staffed up. So things are looking good right now.

Robert Stoldal: 06:16:21

I know this is Myron's favorite question, but I'll ask it of you. What's the status of the coin press?

Josh Bonde: 06:16:27

I was trying to avoid that, Chairman. Just [inaudible]. [laughter] Well, for lack of better terms, we've gotten kind of got the runaround from our contractor, but administrator Freedman has been in touch with him this week and it looks like we may be able to go pick up our new fabricated part next week.

Robert Stoldal: 06:16:53

Well, I think the board and everybody is aware of that, that this was a step that everybody approved and thought was the right move. In hindsight, maybe not, but we'll move forward, and because I think everybody has tried to do the best job to get this thing up and running for a good period of time. And you were handed this wonderful package when you arrived. Any guesstimate you won't even make is the one you think you're going to be coin pressing again.

Josh Bonde: 06:17:27

Well, Josh Bonde, for the record. We all know how putting a machine back together goes, it's always super smooth, nothing ever goes wrong. But that being said, if provided everything does go relatively smooth, we have for the Mark Twain Days, which is going to be a brand new festival here in Carson City, we are hoping be pressing a commemorative Mark Twain medallion which Myron was instrumental in designing. So we think that'll be a hot commodity, especially for the special event, so I'm really hopeful that that will at least be pressing by Mark Twain Days, which will be late April.

Robert Stoldal: 06:18:05

We look forward to in the next private-- the private budget as well. Other questions from the board, otherwise we'll move to the action items? 15C, one is a custom signed service contract approval. Look for a motion.

[silence]

Robert Stoldal: 06:18:38

Myron, I think this is one of the challenges that you see as we went through all of these contracts. When the board gets the board packet 72 hours beforehand, there is just a lot of contracts to read and review and to do our due diligence as the board. And as you get up to staff with some of the things, it would be helpful if we could get some of these to move forward. But--

Myron Freedman: 06:19:07

Mr. Chair? Myron Freedman, for the record. And since you brought it up, I'm just going to take a minute to say that we have been in an incredibly dense period these last couple months with the budget preparation, and then the legislature starting, and then the work with the legislators themselves. It's just been quite a merry-go-round here. So I apologize, for some of the snafus we've run into today. I do know that in the future, we will try to make sure that we keep these other things at bay so we can give this the total focus that it needs.

Robert Stoldal: 06:19:50

Well, I would appreciate that. And we also appreciate that you haven't been up to full staff, and there's a lot of things that are going on, even without the legislature and

when you add that in, it creates a real challenge. But let's go ahead with the action item, which is 15C Nevada State Museum Carson City. Number one customer signed service contract, look for a motion.

Myron Freedman:

06:20:23

Myron Freedman, for the record. In case you're wondering, this is a pretty standard contract. This is to install a mural of Mark Twain temporarily on the building for this festival that Dr. Bonde was talking about.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:20:40

Mr. Chairman, I would move for approval of this item.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:20:43

We have a motion. Do we have a second?

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:20:45

Mr. Ostrovsky.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:20:46

Mercedes second.

Robert Stoldal:

06:20:48

Further discussion by the board? General public? All those in favor of 15 F1 contracts?

No, excuse me, 15 C1 custom signed contract say aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:21:05

Aye.

?: 06:21:06 Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed. Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor of those attendance. The next one is 15 C2, Science Fair free admission requests. Myron.

Myron Freedman:

06:21:20

06:21:08

Myron Freedman, for the record. I'll toss it to Dr. Bonde.

Josh Bonde: 06:21:24 Josh Bonde, for the record. The Northern Nevada Science and Technology Festival for

the last two years has been mostly a Reno-Sparks Metro Area event. They would like to expand their programming to Carson City area. So what they do is they provide free STEM programming for the public. So we'd be part of a Science is Everywhere evening which would be after hours from 4:00 to 8:00 PM, and it's supposed to be an op-- which would be collaborated with the Children's Museum of Northern Nevada has been invited to the Railroad Museum and the Stewart Museum just to be an

evening of science in the community.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

Look for a motion.

06:21:58

Jan Petersen: 06:22:03 Wants what?

Myron Freedman:

Motion.

06:22:04

Jan Petersen: 06:22:05

Oh, so moved. Jan Petersen.

Robert Stoldal:

Jan Petersen moves to approve item 15 C3. Do we have a second?

06:22:09

Mercedes De La Garza:

Mercedes, for the record, second.

06:22:15

Robert Stoldal:

We have a motion. We have a second. Further discussion?

06:22:17

Courtney Mooney:

06:22:20

Bob, I think it's C2.

Robert Stoldal:

I'm sorry, you're correct. This is item 15 C2. The science fair free admission. Further

06:22:25

discussion? General public? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye.

?: 06:22:38

Aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:22:39

Ave.

Sarah Cowie: 06:22:39

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed? Motion carries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. Now item

06:22:40

15 C3, donation approval, Johnson \$1,000. Director?

Josh Bonde: 06:22:53

Josh Bonde, for the record. This is a \$1,000 donation from a member of our Friends

group, in support of education programming.

Robert Stoldal:

06:23:02

Further questions? Look for a motion.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:23:06

Mercedes, for the record. I move to approve \$1,000 restricted donation for the

education program.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:23:12

Second.

Jan Petersen: 06:23:12

Jan Petersen, second.

Robert Stoldal:

06:23:14

Jan Petersen, second. Further discussion? General public? All those in favor please say

aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

06:23:22

06:23:25

Aye.

?: 06:23:22

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed? Motion caries unanimously with the Chair voting in favor. Item 15

C4, donation of \$12,155. Director?

Josh Bonde: 06:23:44

Josh Bonde, for the record. This is part of our annual appeal, our successful annual

appeal, where we put the call out for restricted funding that's part of exhibits to

support our new exhibits manager and further new endeavors.

Robert Stoldal:

06:24:00

Look for a motion.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:24:02

06:24:11

Mercedes, for the record. I move to approve acceptance of the 12,155 restricted

donations.

Robert Stoldal:

Second? Chair votes, makes a second to that motion. Further discussion? General

public? All those in favor please say aye.

?: 06:24:31

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed? Chair votes in favor of the motion. Thank you very much and

06:24:33

director, thank you for all the work that you're doing. We know that there's a lot of

additional responsibilities that you have, that are on your shoulders and we thank you for all that. I know at the top of your list is that coin press. We will move on to 15E, Nevada State Railroad Museum in Boulder City. The director is still with us. Is there anything you want to make sure that the board hears in your board report?

Christopher

MacMahon: 06:25:16

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. There's three items I'd just like to draw the board's attention to. First, I want to give recognition to one of our staff members: administrative assistant John Walker was named a Veteran Employee of the Month for the State of Nevada. So for all veteran state employees he was chosen as the employee of the month for December so he wants to make the board aware, and again, wish him a hearty congratulations on [inaudible]. Second item--

Robert Stoldal: 06:25:43

That is a significant award for all the state employees so congratulations, and pass on our best regards from the board please.

Christopher

MacMahon: 06:25:54

I will do so, Mr. Chairman. Continuing, Christopher MacMahon for the record, the second item I want to draw the board's attention to, in calendar year 2022 we had 24,000 hours of volunteer at the museum. So that's quite a significant amount, and again, what we do at the museum would not be possible without all the volunteers who give their time and service and dedication to achieving our mission, so thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers.

Robert Stoldal: 06:26:25

Director, how do you-- people don't punch in and punch out. How are these numbers arrived at?

Christopher

MacMahon: 06:26:33

Christopher MacMahon, for the record. We keep volunteer hour logs. Some of those logs, like certain train operation positions, those are federally mandated and follow federal forms. The rest of the volunteer hours are kept in a separate log book. Volunteers calculate those hours monthly and provide them to John Walker who then keeps track of them in coordination with staff in Carson City. So they're logged daily when people volunteer, calculated at the end of the month, and then shared between the institution and division.

Robert Stoldal: 06:27:09

Great. Thank you.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:27:10

[inaudible] your documentation here says 24,000. You said 22.

Christopher

MacMahon: 06:27:16

I'm sorry. [laughter] 24,000. [laughter]

Myron Freedman:

06:27:21

Myron Freedman, for the record. That translates into like a dozen people working full-

time.

Mercedes De La Garza:

06:27:26

Yeah.

Christopher

MacMahon: 06:27:29

So our final item-- Christopher MacMahon, continuing, that I want to draw the board's attention to. As of December of 2022, which was halfway through the fiscal year, we are at 20,301 riders, which is really the only means we have to track attendance in the museum. For comparison, we did 24,000 all of last year. So we are on track to have the best year we have ever had at that museum. We're very excited about all the wonderful programs that we've been able to do. And again, this wouldn't be possible without our volunteers. So we're doing good, a lot of good

things happening, more exciting things down the road. And with that, I'll be happy to answer any questions you have.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:28:11

Questions for the board? Not like all of the museums, you have many things that you're juggling including the building of a wonderful facility and always a staffing challenge and working with a great set of volunteers. So we look forward to the opening of that museum and addressing the issue that Myron brought up earlier about some sort of an admission fee which is something that we can move forward with. But any questions? Doctor, thank you very much. Let's then move onto 15F Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City. The director of that is in the-- down the street at the state legislature?

Myron Freedman:

06:29:13

Myron Freedman, for the record. Correct and earlier, Chair, we went through the-- he

gave a very brief report and then we went through their [crosstalk].

Robert Stoldal:

06:29:23

Right. Is there anything else that-- non-action item that we need to be aware of and

be-- we didn't get a chance to talk about their great numbers on the store.

Deb Rudo: 06:29:36 Number three.

Myron Freedman:

06:29:38

Number three?

Deb Rudo: 06:29:39 I didn't hear of the--

Jan Petersen: 06:29:41 Yeah, we didn't do that one.

Deb Rudo: 06:29:42 --donation approved [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

06:29:43

That's correct. Thank you for bringing up. Item 15 F3, the donation approval from the

Jones Trust Fund. Myron, is there anything you want to add to that?

Myron Freedman:

06:29:53

No. Chair, Myron Freedman, for the record. I don't have anything to add to that. I see that Dan had the nice thank you letter acknowledging the \$5,000. Yeah. I don't know

what else to add to that.

Robert Stoldal:

06:30:12

Well, we just--

Doris Dwyer: 06:30:13 Chair?

Robert Stoldal:

--look for a motion to approve \$5,000.

06:30:13

Doris Dwyer: 06:30:16

Chair, this is Doris Dwyer. I move to accept the 5,000 donation from the Jones Trust.

Robert Stoldal:

Great. Second?

06:30:23

Mercedes De La Garza:

Mercedes, for the record. Second.

06:30:27

Robert Stoldal: Motion and second. Further discussion by the board? General public? Hearing none,

06:30:29 all those please say yes or aye.

Robert Ostrovsky:

Aye.

06:30:43

Sarah Cowie: 06:30:44 Aye. [laughter]

Courtney Mooney:

06:30:45

Aye.

Robert Stoldal:

Those opposed, no or nay. Getting late in the day. Motion carries unanimously, with 06:30:46 the Chair voting in favor. Let's move on to the next item which the Nevada Historical

Society Report. And I do not know if the director's still with us.

Myron Freedman:

06:31:06

Catherine.

Robert Stoldal: 06:31:07

Oh, there you are. Catherine, welcome. Anything in the Nevada Historical Society report? I know I won't say this, but I'll say it out loud, the Nevada Historical Society, my favorite part of the museum system, but then they're all my favorite, but Catherine, welcome.

Catherine Magee:

06:31:25

[laughter] Thank you. Thank you very much. This is Catherine Magee, for the record. Some interesting things to point out. You guys have talked about staffing. We still have two open staff positions. One of them is the Curator III, which is the editor of the, would be editor of the Q and education curator. We've had applicants but not qualified applicants. I've asked that that position be reposted and we're still not getting qualified applicants, so we've got to work on that. That leads us, this isn't in this report but because I do the education curator and editor duties, we have had a huge demand for school tours. It's really great. It's reflected a little bit in what has been done before, but we had a tour today. Have a tour tomorrow. We have a tour almost every week until school ends, so that's pretty fabulous.

Catherine Magee: 06:32:33

And there is update on the leak issue under general museum activities, if any of you noticed that. Basically, the leak that we've had in our collection storage was assessed by risk management and determined that it's a failure of our stucco system. And I would call that a catastrophic failure of our stucco system and our collection storage, which is the 10,000-square-foot edition that was built. They have determined the water intrusion is coming from the stucco and not the roof. And while we are approved for stucco repair for this CIP cycle that will not actually take care of the issues. According to state public works, they've requested that I put in for risk management insurance claim, which I have and I haven't heard recently, but that's looking at a over a million dollar price tag to fix one wall.

Catherine Magee: 06:33:55

What this potentially means is to do the repair in our collection storage, it means that we have to move all of the collections out of a 10,000-square-foot storage facility. There are no qualified people to do that on that I am aware of on the East Coast for all museum-- or on the West Coast for all museum collections. I have found a group that had done an archival move for Stanford. And I've gotten a rough estimate for that, which is probably around \$5 million. I would like to point out that our collection storage is small and we have six, not sufficient. We have six other collection storage facilities. So we've had a meeting with Myron and Brenda are aware of this. I have not heard any recent updates from risk management or facilities, but I think it's a great time to really push a move for the NHS. We need a larger facility. We need to have an appropriate collection storage facility. And I think this might be a golden opportunity to move this forward. That's all I have. Bob, this is Catherine for the record, you're on mute.

Robert Stoldal: 06:35:38

And for good reason. For E25, that's a lot to think about. And it needs to move to the very top of the list. Are there any places that, off the top of your head, that you have found in-- downtown Reno is changing every day with certain investors buying up and living facilities, motels, and auto courts, and places are changing just dramatically. Is

there any-- or are you talking about starting from scratch? That's a long process in itself.

Catherine Magee:

06:36:23

This is Catherine Magee, for the record. I actually did bring Myron to a place that I found that would be ideal. This was a many-- was that a year ago, Myron? I don't even remember. And it has a potential to be a perfect location with ability for expansion. I don't know if it's still on the market. It was an entire block with five different buildings. And it was, at that point, \$20 million. It would require renovation. I believe because it wasn't officially on the market, and I did some checking, if I can look at that. I have always had my eye on other options. Whether they're available is another question entirely. So I hope that answered your question.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:37:36

Well, actually, no. I was looking for the magic solution, and it sounds like we have two issues. And we would need to know what the board could roll with and play to find solutions. And the first solution is it sounds like there is an immediate challenge with a collection of the oldest museum in the State of Nevada. I think Yerington goes back to 1904, and so you're coming up to your 120th birthday. And so there is all of that material that is there. Although, are there not some existing off-site storage places we have already?

Catherine Magee:

06:38:22

We have [inaudible] other off-site storage facilities besides our [inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

06:38:27

Did we move those artifacts and records over to those facilities with existing staff or

did we hire professional movers?

Catherine Magee:

06:38:41

[inaudible].

Robert Stoldal:

06:38:45

You're breaking up, for some reason.

Catherine Magee:

06:38:47

Oh, Catherin Magee, for the record. [inaudible] that I was in charge of [inaudible]

newspapers. Yeah, it was a combination of--

Robert Stoldal:

06:38:59

We can't hear you.

Myron Freedman:

06:39:02

You're breaking up.

**Robert Stoldal:** 

06:39:03

Yeah. Well, now you're gone. Why don't you try and turn it off and on?

Catherine Magee:

06:39:07

[inaudible].

Deb Rudo: 06:39:17 Now she's really gone. [laughter]

Myron, can you jump in here and also give us a sense of what your take is and what

we need to do?

Myron Freedman:

Robert Stoldal:

06:39:26

06:39:19

Myron Freedman, for the record. Well, this is a difficult problem. We remained a little bit excited about this building that Catherine talked about. Brenda also saw the space and talked to the Arts Council. This is the kind of thing that could be the home to not just the Historical Society but to the Arts Council and to the tourism offices in Reno. And who knows? There's probably room for another state agency. So I did go to State

Lands and inquire a little bit about their process, and they said, "Well, there's no money laying around to handle this." [laughter] So I don't have a quick solution for it.

Myron Freedman: 06:40:15

I hear Catherine when she says that she's got a difficult problem with moving the collections. I will meet with her again. We will look at that seven ways from Sunday and see if there's anything we can do with that. In the meantime, we'll have to lobby, campaign for significant funds here, not just to handle the possible building purchase, but possibly to handle just letting the historical society fix the building it's in. And of course, there's a concern here that the Historical Society is going to receive significant funds in this coming CIP and so if that's not the building that it's going to remain in, in the near future, then is that throwing money away that could be used for something else? So these are questions I'm rattling around with and trying to find some help from Brenda to see if we can get somebody's ear, maybe in the Governor's office, to find a solution for this.

Robert Stoldal: 06:41:33

Well, I would just mention again Myron, that the term, near-term, there is no near-term. There is no magic check that's going to be written for 10, 15, 20 million dollars. So maybe the near-term is that we have to use this money to stabilize whatever we can with that building and protect the artifacts and those things as we work towards a solution. I don't think that we're going to be able to move out of there in the next 24 months.

Myron Freedman: 06:42:07

No, but as Catherine's pointing out, Myron Freedman, for the record, just to move the collection could cost millions of dollars. Just to move it and we would have to move it before we could fix the building. So it's a real conundrum. Bob Ostrovsky and I had a sideline chat about this to see if there was ARPA money drifting around that he could lay his hands on. So I don't know, Bob, did you have any luck with that?

Robert Ostrovsky: 06:42:35

Well, I'm still trying. This is Bob Ostrovsky, for the record. Yeah. I have approached some folks in the legislature about funding a number of needs for the institutions. I don't have a clear signal yet that we're going to be successful. It is not something the board asks for or the administration. I've sort of gone out on my own to see if I can raise some funds for the Historical Society for Boulder City and for curatorial building in Carson City, so. All of those one-shots come at the end of the legislative session. We won't have an answer until then, but it's always good to let the chairman of the finance committee in the senate know that we definitely have needs. They have a considerate amount of one-shot money. We also have a lot of needs, but where we could make a good argument, perhaps we could get at least a slice of that money.

Robert Stoldal: 06:43:40

Our current governor is more inclined to one-shot rather than things that have a reoccurring cost. Well, Catherine, are you back with us?

Catherine Magee: 06:43:54

I hope so. Can you hear me?

Robert Stoldal:

Yes, perfect. Great.

Catherine Magee:

Okay. Great. Thank you. This is Catherine Magee for the record. Yeah.

06:43:57

06:43:56

Robert Stoldal: 06:44:01

So we talked about a couple things while you were gone. One of them is the definition of near-term before we could find a new home, and near-term to me before we find a new home is not 6 months, 12 months; it's 24, 36 months. What is the condition of the building? Do we need to spend the money to stabilize the building for that period of time without moving?

Catherine Magee: 06:44:34

This is Catherine Magee for the record. So the north wall, which has the most water ingress and has the-- if we can get funding to repair it, I believe that we can build an internal wall in the collections storage and not have to move very-- only move the collections in that area. And I have a estimate for that ranging from 10,000 to 30,000 dollars for that move. Those collections would move into one of our galleries.