

## SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 25, 2013

1:00 pm

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Meeting Minutes

**SCFD Board members present:** Chair Kathryn Spuhler, Vice Chair Kathy Kucsan, Treasurer Dan Hopkins, Secretary Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann, Joseph Arcese, Bob Grant, Rob Johnson, Elaine D. Torres, and Damon O. Barry

**SCFD Board members not present:** Shepard Nevel and Hal Logan

**SCFD staff present:** Executive Director Peg Long, Program Manager Nancy McCamey, Program Manager Jessica Clare, Program Associate Erica Barclay, Office Systems Administrator Sheila Mieger

### 1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Kathryn Spuhler called the meeting to order at 1:05pm followed by introductions. A quorum was present, and the agenda was approved.

Tammy VerCauteren, Executive Director of Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO), welcomed the Board. The Old Stone House was built in 1818 on five acres of land. 130 species of birds have been spotted on the property. The late season snow and cold weather has caused some birds not to hatch this season. RMBO had its highest attendance year yet with over 20,000 visitors. Larry Modesitt, RMBO Board Chair, shared information regarding RMBO's education programs and bird banding station at Chatfield. They thanked SCFD for the support.

### 2. Approval of March 28, 2013 Board Minutes

Peggy Lehmann motioned to approve the minutes. Joseph Arcese seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

### 3. Resolution 13-03: Pertaining to 2013 Tier III Budgeted Distribution

Each board member read a portion of Resolution 13-03. Bob Grant motioned to approve it. Dan Hopkins seconded. The motion passed.

### 4. Denver Botanic Gardens Tier I Certification Presentation

Brian Vogt, CEO of the Denver Botanic Gardens, thanked the Board for allowing him to make the Denver Botanic Gardens presentation a month early. He highlighted the Gardens' success in each of the seven counties this past year along with programming highlights at both the Chatfield and York street locations. Denver Botanic Gardens is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest attended botanic garden in the country. Brian thanked the Board for the support SCFD provides. The Board asked a number of questions regarding outreach, school attendance and finances. They congratulated him on the number of volunteers, the increase in membership and the Garden's accessibility.

### 5. Reports

#### 5.1 Treasurer

Dan Hopkins reported the February 2013 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$3,563,824.11. This compares to February 2012 tax revenue of \$3,319,160.01. The variance is \$244,664.10. This is a 7.37% increase in 2013 over month-to-date (MTD) and year-to-date (YTD) 2012. The 2013 year-to-date sales and use tax revenue is \$6,862,469.94. This compares to YTD 2012 revenue of \$6,706,972.09. The variance is \$155,497.85, a 2.32% increase in YTD 2013 over YTD 2012.

## 5.2 Chairman

Kathryn Spuhler thanked Board members for attending the April 11, 2013 planning session. She asked them to review the draft of the 2013 action items listed in the board packet. She asked that the word “policy” be added to the Tier II Audited Paid Attendance line. These will be discussed in detail at a later board planning meeting. She attended the Colorado Creative Industries Summit.

## 5.3 Executive Director

Peg Long reported the following.

In addition to its current bank’s proposal, SCFD received one response to the request for banking services proposals. Peg and Dan Hopkins reviewed the proposal. Hal Logan offered to review it as well, but unfortunately was out of town when it arrived. Dan asked James Harrington, former SCFD board chair and treasurer, if he would take a look. James Harrington reported the proposal was similar to Colorado Business Bank’s. The fees were a bit lower, but the interest rate offered did not exceed that offered by our current bank, which has agreed to adjust their proposal regarding some of the fees in response, said Dan.

Dan Hopkins motioned to renew the relationship with Colorado Business Bank. Damon O. Barry seconded. The motion passed.

### Legislative Update

HB 1272 passed Senate Finance on party lines. Peg testified. It should go to the floor within the next week. Melanie expects it to pass on party lines in the House.

- HB 1288 was scheduled for hearing April 24 but was pulled. Peg is not sure why. An article in the Colorado Statesman indicated the tax alignment applied only to home rule cities. Peg has asked Melanie to clarify this. Businesses must file multiple monthly tax returns to remit each home rule city's taxes. The bill also requires all sales tax collections to be done by the Dept. of Revenue. Peg’s understanding is that many of the home rule cities collect their own taxes, e.g. Lone Tree, because this allows them to conduct their own tax compliance audits.
- HB 1144 makes suspension of the exemption of state sales tax on cigarettes permanent after the scheduled termination of the exemption on July 1, 2013, thus making cigarettes subject to state sales taxation indefinitely; the bill passed both houses unamended.
- SB 13-023 amends the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act tort caps to increase the recovery limits for individual claims from \$150,000 to \$350,000 and multiple claims for the same occurrence from \$600,000 to \$990,000. Limits on GIA claims were last adjusted in 1977. It passed both houses unamended and has been sent to the Governor. It is effective July 1, 2013. While SCFD itself has a very small risk of such claims, the special district risk pool from which we purchase our liability insurance covers many types of special districts and our annual premiums may rise due to this general increase in risk exposure.

The Denver Art Museum is building a new administration building at 14<sup>th</sup> and Tremont. They have broke ground and hope to be moved in by the end of 2014.

## 6. Other Matters

### SCFD Advisory Committee Proposal: James S. Harrington

James Harrington, former SCFD Board Chair and current Board Chair for CATZ, proposed forming a Reauthorization Advisory Committee. He has asked former SCFD Board members John Hayes, Holly Osgood, Mark Addison and Stevan Strain to be available to the current SCFD Board and staff as a resource. Each person has unique institutional knowledge regarding issues of the last reauthorization. This group would be advisory in nature only. The committee would make no decisions. They could present as a team or separately as needed. The Board asked a few questions regarding the choice of members and process. They thanked James for the idea and offer.

Kathy Kucsan motioned to officially accept the proposed SCFD Advisory Committee. Elaine D. Torres seconded. The motion passed.

**7. Public Comment**

Peggy Lehmann attended the Denver Regional Council of Government's awards ceremony. The Denver Zoo and Denver Botanic Gardens received the Play-Work-Live awards.

Bob Grant encouraged Board members to volunteer at the SCFD/Arvada Center booth at CenterFest this summer.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.

  
Secretary