



**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
BELLINGHAM-WHATCOM PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Daniel Larner, President, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were Loraine Boland, Dunham Gooding, Daniel Larner, and Brent Walker. Also present were Andrew Asbjornsen, Alison Henshaw, and John Purdie.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

John Purdie, executive director of the Mount Baker Theatre, mentioned the Theatre is working on its annual report. It ran at a loss last year - \$100,000 out of the \$3.8 million budget. They are working on Phase III of renovations, a major capital project, which will include replacing the roof and all the seats in the auditorium. Those seats were installed in 1994 so are beyond their useful life.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Daniel Larner pointed out that a line of the July 20, 2023 meeting minutes needed to be corrected from 'DANIEL LARNER GOODING' to 'DANIEL LARNER'.

BRENT WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING, AS AMENDED. LORAIN BOLAND SECONDED.

Motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

1. BWPFD Administration and Financial Report:

Financial Report:

Andrew Asbjornsen, Finance Director for the City of Bellingham, explained that state sales tax revenues continue to be better than anticipated. As before, the main sources of sales tax revenue are from construction and motor vehicle sales. There is a year-over-year increase for September of 10% for 2023 over 2022, 10% for 2022 over 2021, and 21.7% year-over-year increase for 2021 over 2020. Sales tax revenue has a two-month lag, so the numbers in February are for sales activity in December. Andrew recently attended an economic forum where the speakers anticipated a recession in early 2024, although it is not clear how significant that recession will be. Revenue growth is expected to slow or flatten.

Authorization of expenditures for the second quarter of 2023:

Expenditures for the second quarter of 2023 total \$540,622, consisting of \$8,499 in operating expenses and \$532,123 in debt service. This amount is within the legally appropriated budget.

BRENT WALKER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$540,622. LORAIN BOLOAND SECONDED.

Motion carried 4-0.

Authorization of expenditures for the third quarter of 2023:

Expenditures for the third quarter of 2023 total \$540,870, consisting of \$8,512 in operating expenses and \$532,358 in debt service. This amount is within the legally appropriated budget.

DUNHAM GOODING MOVED TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$540,870. BRENT WALKER SECONDED.

Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Resolution 2023-1 Setting regular board meetings for 2024:

LORAIN BOLAND MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SETTING REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2024 AS PRESENTED. BRENT WALKER SECONDED. DANIEL LARNER MOVED TO PASS RESOLUTION 2023-1.

Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Daniel Larner adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison M. Henshaw, Administrative Assistant.

Final Minutes Approved:



Daniel Larner, President

