



**LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
STAFF MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023 COUNTY CITY BUILDING
ROOM 112 - CITY COUNTY CHAMBERS
8:30 A.M.**

Location Announcement of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act: A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is located on the wall at the back of the room.

AGENDA ITEM

1. APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 13, 2023

[Staff Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2023](#)

**2. 8:30 A.M. – VISITORS PROMOTION COMMITTEE PROMOTION FUND
GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Jeff Maul, Vice President and Executive Director, Visit Lincoln, and Aaron Stitt, Chair, Visitors Promotion Committee

Documents:

[ITEM 2__VPC Grant Recommendations 2023.06.21.pdf](#)

**3. 8:45 A.M. - NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY OFFICIALS
(NACO) UPDATE**

Jon Cannon, Executive Director, NACO

4. DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS ATTENDED

- A. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday, July 13, 2023 @ 4:00 p.m.
Schulte

- B. Realtors Association Government Affairs Committee
Friday, July 14, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.
Amundson / Yoakum

- C. Mutual Aid
Monday, July 17, 2023 @ 8:30 p.m.

Flowerday / Schulte

- D. District Energy Corporation
Tuesday, July 18, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m.
Flowerday / Vest

E. OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE LAST STAFF MEETING

5. SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

- A. NACo Annual Conference
Thursday, July 20, 2023 - Monday, July 24, 2023
Flowerday / Yoakum
- B. Ag Society
Thursday, July 20, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.
Amundson / Vest
- C. New Americans Task Force
Friday, July 21, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m.
Yoakum
- D. LIBA
Monday, July 24, 2023 @ 11:40 a.m.
Amundson / Schulte
- E. Monthly Meeting with Chair, Vice-Chair, and Planning
Tuesday, July 25, 2023 @ 8:15 a.m.
Flowerday / Yoakum
- F. Serve Lunch at People's City Mission
Tuesday, July 25, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m.
All

6. EMERGENCY ITEMS

7. ADJOURNMENT

Branched Oak Observatory

The first grant reviewed was for the Branched Oak Observatory. They are requesting \$5,000 for their 9th Annual StarBQ. Maul said their facility is expanding and will be one of the biggest. They will use \$2,500 for digital media and \$2,500 for print media. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Jeff Barclay made a motion to approve. Jason Hoehne seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Jeff Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Bryan Sullivan voted yes. Tara Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

Flatwater Shakespeare Company

The next grant reviewed was for the Flatwater Shakespeare Company. They requested \$5,000 but after reviewing a lot of that wasn't for marketing so they were asked to provide a breakdown of just marketing expenses. The resulted amount being requested is \$493. There are two dates of the event – August 24-27 and August 31-September 3, 2023. Maul added the event will be at the Wyuka Stables. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Hoehne made a motion to approve. Barclay seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Sullivan voted yes. Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

Lincoln Community Playhouse

Lincoln Community Playhouse requested a grant for \$4,564 for marketing purposes to be used July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. They will use the funds to promote shows at the Playhouse to folks outside of the county. Maul added they have asked for a grant in the past for infrastructure. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Cunningham seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Sullivan voted yes. Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

Nebraska Communities Playhouse

Next, the Nebraska Communities Playhouse had a grant request for \$5,000 for marketing. Their event has two dates: September 15-17 and September 21-24, 2023. When asked if anyone had ever attended an event at this Playhouse, Sullivan said he has seen it but never attended an event there. He added that it is well-received in the community. Maul commented that they have done a lot with the facility. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Barclay made a motion to approve. Sullivan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Sullivan voted yes. Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

Nebraska Sports Council

The Nebraska Sports Council's grant request was reviewed next. They requested \$5,000 for marketing for their Heartland Havoc Digital/Social Media Advertising Campaign. They are having a 3rd annual

Heartland Havoc Wrestling Tournament on November 11-12, 2023, and will use the funds to market the tournament through both digital and social media platforms. They are looking to bring in guests from other states. LSF has been a recipient of these grants in the past as they continue to come to us for support. Maul said we need to keep their previous requests in mind going forward. This brought up several questions from the group. Barclay asked how people get on the list to receive notifications about the grants. Derek Feyerherm said we send out notices to hotels, attractions, and other venues. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Hoehne made a motion to approve. Sullivan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Sullivan voted yes. Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

The final grant request came from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. They are requesting \$5,000 for the advertising and promoting of their Spring Affair on April 25-27, 2024. This is similar to a home or garden show. It is at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln, and they are expecting more than 3,300 visitors. Maul added this is their first time applying. Sullivan asked if we know how they heard about it and Feyerherm said likely from the notice we sent to attractions, and Maul said, or they may have heard about it from the Event Center. There were no further questions or comments, so Stitt asked for a motion. Barclay made a motion to approve. Cunningham seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, Stitt called for a vote. Stitt, Barclay, Cunningham, Hoehne, Savona and Sullivan voted yes. Knuth was absent for the vote. Motion carried.