

**Southwest Montana
General Board Meeting
April 26, 2024
Zoom Meeting**

Attendees: SWMT Staff: Sarah Bannon (Executive Director) and Maria Pochervina (Public Relations Manager); Board Members: Bruce Binkowski, Debbie Carlstrom, Becky DiGiovanna, Jocelyn Dodge, Lynn Foland, Patrick Fox, Steve Hill, Mary Johnston, Rebecca Jones, Jeanette Kopf, Andrea Opitz, Branden Pendergast, Katya Petersen, Melanie Sanchez, Vic Sample, Elaine Schnell, Julie Schroder, Dale Siegford, Stephanie Sorini, Jeffrey Spry, Kathleen Tarkalson

The meeting was called to order by President Jocelyn Dodge a 10:06am. Jocelyn welcomed everyone to the meeting. She announced that she would have to leave the meeting early.

FY25 Marketing Plan/Budget:

Executive Director Sarah Bannon presented the FY25 Marketing plan and the FY25 Budget.

Rebecca Jones moved to accept the FY25 Marketing Plan and Budget. Dale Siegford seconded the motion. Motion Passed

ByLaws:

Sarah, Maria and Jocelyn worked on updating bylaws (written in 1987 and updated in 2001). Sarah presented the updated bylaws. Over the next year they will continue working on the bylaws.

Dale Siegford moved to accept the updated Southwest Montana ByLaws. Julie Schroder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

At this point President Jocelyn Dodge turned the meeting over to Vice President Andrea Opitz.

Meeting Minutes March 21, 2024:

Becky DiGiovanna moved to accept the minutes. Rebecca Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Executive Director Report:

Executive Director Sarah Bannon gave the executive report.

Tempest Technologies Report:

Katya Petersen wanted to present 2 videos. However she had audio issue so Debbie Carlson presented the videos

1. We'll Be Here: This video was originally created during the Covid shutdown and the voice over had a lot of Covid messages. However, the video was so popular that a new voice over has been created.
2. Big Hole Battlefield Commemoration

Frontline Tour:

Southwest Montana is planning a southern route tour to Virginia City for June. Becky DiGiovanna volunteered to handle the details. It was decided to do a weekday tour to avoid the heaviest tourism times. June 18 is the target date for the tour.

Tourism Convergence:

The Montana Chamber of Commerce Annual Tourism Convergence event will be in Butte on May 21-May 22 at the Finlen Hotel and the Butte Depot. To learn more visit the Montana Chamber Commerce website at: <https://www.montanachamber.com/events/convergence-2024>

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on May 16 at the Copper Village Museum in Anaconda. This will be a brochure exchange meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring their brochures and maps to exchange. Maria suggested bringing a box to take home brochures.

The general Board Meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.