



**Minutes**  
**Town of Blue River**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**April 21, 2020**

**This will be a virtual meeting and will not be held at Town Hall**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Conferencing Access Information:** <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/258035477>

**Join via phone at** [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212) **Access Code:** 258-035-477

**I. REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 6:00 p.m.**

**II. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

- Mayor Babich called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m. via recorded GoToMeeting.
  - Roll Call
    - Mark Fossett
    - Joel Dixon
    - Dan Cleary
    - Toby Babich
    - Ted Pilling
    - Incoming Trustee Kelly Finley
  - Absent Ken Robertson. Also present: Town Manager/Clerk, Michelle Eddy, and Town Attorney Robert Widner.
  - Mayor Babich noted that all participants except for the Board of Trustees and staff are muted during the meeting. Members of the public wishing to make comments will have an opportunity during the public comment time. He reviewed remote meeting challenges and guidelines for all moving forward.

**III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- **MINUTES, March 11, 2020**
- **Approval of Bills-\$42,607.30**
  - Trustee Fossett moved and Trustee Cleary seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO TRUSTEES**

*This is an opportunity for Citizens to bring comments and questions to the Board of Trustees not being addressed in the Regular Meeting Agenda. Please use the comments section on the meeting site to speak or ask a questions. You may also text your questions to (970) 406-2430 or email: [michelle@townofblueriver.org](mailto:michelle@townofblueriver.org).*

- Citizen Comments (Non-Agenda Items Only)
  - Paul & Martie Semmer Blue Grouse Trail. Congratulated the newly elected Trustees and Mayor and thanked for opportunity to listen to the meeting.
  - Dennis Nattress Lakeshore, questions on the Tarn project and Hwy 9 letter sent. Manager Eddy provided an update on the Tarn and noted no communication has been received from the State concerning Hwy 9.
- Citizen Communications (letters & emails)-none received

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- Swearing in /Welcome of new officers
  - It was noted that all newly elected Trustees were sworn in remotely prior to the meeting.
  - Mayor Babich welcomed newly elected Trustee Finley and congratulated everyone. Mayor Babich wished Trustee Brook the best and hope to see him next month.
- Ratification of email votes.

- Emergency Declaration
- Housing Helps Application
  - It was noted that due to the COVID-19 emergency email votes were necessary versus meeting in person. Both items were passed via email vote with Trustee Cleary abstaining from the Housing Helps Application vote.
  - Trustee Fossett moved and Trustee Pilling seconded to ratify the email vote for the Emergency Declaration. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Trustee Dixon moved and Trustee Fossett seconded for approval of the Housing Helps Application. Motion passed with Trustee Cleary and Trustee Finley abstaining from the vote on the Housing Helps Application.
- COVID-19 Operations discussion and update
  - Manager Eddy provided a staff report to the Board of Trustees with projected revenue numbers and expense recommendations. She noted that this is ever changing and as time goes will be able to provide more accurate projections.
  - Discussion to evaluate month to month. Noted that roads will be maintained the same as the previous two years. Events will be looked at as to crowds and funding. Discussion to not set anything in stone for cancellations and review month to month while looking at the potential long term effects.
  - There was discussion on how we reopen the community and the task force that has been formed. Messaging is being developed to help communicate to visitors and second homeowners. Discussion of how to handle trail heads and parking and to include in the messaging.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

## **VII. REPORTS**

- Mayor
  - Mayor Babich reported on the ongoing meetings both locally and nationally and how it will help some of our communities. The Mayor reported on the ongoing Public Health work and testing.
- Trustees
  - Trails Committee-Trustee Fossett
    - Trustee Fossett noted the April meeting was postponed. New member Wiley Asher has been very active in reaching out to residents for possible easements. A phone call is being planned with the residents.
  - Citizen Advisory-Trustee Finley
    - Trustee Finley reported that work was being planned for the events and awarded scholarships. Noted that some of what was being discussed may still be able to move forward virtually. There was not a meeting in April.
  - Transit Authority-Trustee Pilling
    - Trustee Pilling reported they have not met. He noted that he doesn't have any reports due to the office not being open. Currently buses are available on a on call basis.
    - Trustee Pilling noted he was in agreement to review the financials monthly to keep on top of decisions moving forward. He also agrees that once the stay at home orders are rescinded there will be an uptick in second homeowners.
  - Wildfire Council-Trustee Dixon
    - Trustee Dixon report there was not a meeting and nothing new to report.
  - Planning & Zoning-Trustee Robertson
    - Trustee Robertson was not present but Manager Eddy reported there will be a virtual meeting in May with an application for subdivision and two new construction projects.
  - Other Trustees Reports
    - Trustee Cleary asked for talk about handling public hearings.
- Other Committee Reports
- Department/Staff Reports
- Attorney's Report

- Attorney Widner welcomed Trustee Finley. He reported on some of the new funds coming from the Federal Government for the paycheck protection program and assistance for small businesses and tests. Missing from this is the local governments. So far there is no funding for that. He noted that municipalities across the state are seeing significant impacts. Blue River not being dependent on sales tax is allowing for the Town to be fairly protected at this time.
- There is ongoing discussion on remote meetings especially around public hearings. The key is to ensure that hearings are held in the proper format. Many municipalities are postponing some hearings until meetings in person can be held.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

**IX. Next Meeting, Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Fossett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Finley seconded the motion. Mayor Babich adjourned the regular meeting 7:23 p.m..

\*Reports from the Town Administrator, Mayor and Trustees; Scheduled Meetings and other matters are topics listed on the Regular Trustees Agenda. If time permits at the work session, the Mayor and Trustees may discuss these items. The Board of Trustees may make a Final Decision on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of whether it is listed as an action item.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Michelle Eddy, Town Clerk