Natrona County Travel & Tourism Council
Visit Casper

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026 – 11:30 a.m.
CASPER, WYOMING

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Presiding officer (Board Chair) Renee Penton-Jones called the regular meeting of the Natrona County Travel and Tourism Council to order Tuesday, August 28, 2026, at 11:38 a.m. Tassma Powers, Secretary, was not present. Roll call determined the presence of a quorum.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present:	Cole Montgomery, City of Casper Dan Foote, Town of Bar Nunn Mike Cavasco, Town of Midwest (Zoom) Morgan Covert, City of Mills Pat Sweeney, City of Casper Renee Penton-Jones, Natrona County Shawn Houck, Natrona County
Excused:	Tassma Powers, Town of Evansville
Absent:	Mindy Blackmore, Town of Edgerton
Also Present:	Annette Pitts, CEO Terri Weinhandl, Operations Manager Wayne Stewart, Director of Marketing & Communications Syd Wallace, Creative Manager Shelby Kraus, Destination Sales Manager Liz Bowers, Community Engagement Manager Bri Hebbert, Associate Graphic Designer Tommy Culkin, Oil City News Melissa Hugget, Downtown Development Authority Glenda Thomas, Casper Amateur Hockey Club Moriah Bovee, Casper Legion Baseball Club Jake Crumb, Ford Wyoming Center Allison Maluchnik, Nicolaysen Art Museum Will David, Nicolaysen Art Museum Vincent Fiorre, Cooking with Cowboys (Zoom) Ginny Garner, Casper College (Zoom) Chuck Powers, Cooking with Cowboys (Zoom)

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Penton-Jones asked for a motion to approve the August 28, 2026, meeting agenda. No discussion. (Exhibit 1)

Moved by Mr. Houck, seconded by Ms. Covert, carried without dissent to approve the August 28, 2026, meeting agenda as presented.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Mrs. Penton-Jones asked for a motion to approve the July 28, 2026, meeting minutes. No discussion. (Exhibit 2)

Moved by Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, carried without dissent to approve the July 28, 2026, meeting minutes as presented.

Note: To accommodate visiting organization representatives, the Board adjusted the agenda order to address New Business B: Destination Development Fund Applications first, which allowed the representatives in attendance to present information and answer questions during the board's review of the project applications without requiring them to remain for the duration of the entire meeting.

V. **STAFF REPORTS & SCORECARDS**

CEO and staff reported on Marketing, Sales and Community Engagement highlights. (Exhibit 3)

Ms. Pitts reviewed the July scorecard. (Exhibit 4)

VI. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Montgomery reviewed the July financials.

A discussion was held about appropriate levels of Visit Casper reserve funds.

Mrs. Penton-Jones asked for a motion to approve the July financial reports.

Moved by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Ms. Covert, carried without dissent to approve the July financials as presented. (Exhibits 5 & 6)

VII. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Sponsorship Report

The board was presented with an update on sales and marketing sponsorships awarded in August, 2026. (Exhibit 7)

B. Destination Development Fund Applications

The Wyoming Office of Tourism provides funds for the Visit Casper Destination Development Fund Program to support local community projects.

Visit Casper awarded $297,815 in project support for 12 local community project applications, with one project (Crossroads Park Baseball Field Improvements) funds held/earmarked for further clarification and approval from the City of Casper:

1. Wyoming Sports Ranch
   - Project: Championship Court
   - Funds Requested: $10,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $10,000**

2. Casper Amateur Hockey Club
   - Project: Second Sheet of Ice
   - Funds Requested: $50,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $50,000**

3. Cooking with Cowboys
   - Project: Full Show Series
   - Funds Requested: $375,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $0**

4. Cooking with Cowboys
   - Project: Casper Focused Episode
   - Funds Requested: $75,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $10,000**

5. Central Wyoming Fairgrounds
   - Project: Indian Village at the MHA Indian Relay Races
   - Funds Requested: $25,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $25,000**

6. Casper Legion Baseball Club[1]
   - Project: Crossroads Park Baseball Field Improvements
   - Funds Requested: $200,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $40,000**

7. Nicolaysen Art Museum
   - Project: Sculpture Garden
   - Funds Requested: $35,000
     - **Funds Awarded: $25,000**

[1] (Crossroads Park Baseball Field Improvements) funds held/earmarked for further clarification and approval from the City of Casper

8. Visit Casper
Project: Central Wyoming Gravel Bike Adventure Guide
- Funds Requested: $87,000
  - **Funds Awarded: $70,000**

9. Downtown Development Authority
- Project: Holiday Promotional Campaign
- Funds Requested: $25,000
  - **Funds Awarded: $15,000**

10. Casper College
- Project: Workforce Development & Certification Program
- Funds Requested: $11,815
  - **Funds Awarded: $11,815**

11. Ford Wyoming Center
- Project: Facility Rigging System Study
- Funds Requested: $16,000
  - **Funds Awarded: $16,000**

12. City of Casper
- Project: Hogadon Ski Area Lighting Upgrades
- Funds Requested: $25,000
  - **Funds Awarded: $25,000**

(Exhibits 8-20)

IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Pitts reviewed the NCTTC Annual Summary Report FYE 6/30/2026 prepared by Skogen & Cometto.

Moved by Mr. Foote, seconded by Ms. Covert, carried without dissent to approve the Annual Summary Report FYE 6/30/2026 as presented for filing with the Wyoming Department of Audit. (Exhibit 21)

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Penton-Jones asked for a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Foote, carried without dissent to adjourn at 1:35 p.m.

Next meeting: September 22, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

Renee Penton-Jones, Chair

Dan Foote, Secretary

Cole Montgomery, Treasurer