

**Lake of the Ozarks Area Business District of Miller County Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**  
**The Resort at Lake of the Ozarks/Encore**  
**Encore Board Room – 3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd, Lake Ozarks, MO – Miller County**

**1. Call To Order**

Business District Chair Merlyn Vandervort called the meeting of the Lake of the Ozarks Area Business District of Miller County Advisory Board to order at 10:02 a.m. A roll call attendance for the Advisory Board meeting was taken:

Russell Burdette – Present  
Gail Griswold – Present  
Merlyn Vandervort – Present

Non-Voting Advisory Board Member:  
Miller County Presiding Commissioner Kevin Cardwell – Absent

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Also, present were Rickie Smith, Leah Martin, Lagina Fitzpatrick, and Tracy McKinney.

**2. Introductions**

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Russell Burdette made a motion to approve the February 20, 2024, Lake of the Ozarks Area Business District of Miller County Advisory Board meeting agenda. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Public Comments**

None at this time.

**5. Minutes**

Russell Burdette made a motion to approve the January 16, 2024, Lake of the Ozarks Area Business District of Miller County Advisory Board meeting minutes. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. Gail Griswold abstained.

**6. Lodging Tax Collection Report**

The lodging tax collection report through December was presented, Miller Small is reporting an increase of .39% and Miller Medium is reporting an increase of 36.86%. Camden, Miller, and Morgan County combined is reporting an increase of 7.98%.

**7. Municipalities and Chamber of Commerce Updates**

None at this time

**8. New Business**

(A.) Approval of the Funding Disbursement Report #328 – The Miller County Funding Disbursement Report #328 was reviewed. Gail Griswold inquired about the Margaritaville Lake Resort payment for the Missouri Music Educators and why is Miller County contributing to this. The Missouri Music Educators is the largest group that comes to the Lake area and in January, the payment is for transportation for getting the attendees to other hotels and resorts due to Margaritaville being booked for the event. Merlyn Vandervort stated that he is glad that they come to the Lake area, especially at that time, however The Resort at Lake Ozark does not see

any rooms from the event, Gail stated that she does not either. Since this is a preapproved item from the FY24 budget, this will be looked at later. Russell Burdette made a motion to approve the Miller County Funding Disbursement Report #328. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. Gail Griswold abstained. The motion passed.

**(B.) Sponsorship/Funding Request**

**Ozarks Ride Rally – May 2024** – The Ozarks Ride Rally was created by Lake Ozark Harley Davidson and has been successful in the two years of the event, however BikeFest has taken over the event. The event will be the second weekend in May and sponsors will set up the rides which will consist of around 20 motorcycles for each ride. Each ride will start at one sponsor location and end at a different sponsor location. The BikeFest committee will use the requested funds for marketing the event. The request will be reviewed at the Morgan County Business District meeting held Wednesday, February 21, 2024, and the Camden County Business District meeting held, Thursday, February 22, 2024. Merlyn Vandervort made a motion to fund \$1,000 to the Ozarks Ride Rally. Russell Burdette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Shootout Offshore – May 29 – June 2, 2024** – Leah Martin and Rickie Smith with Lake of the Ozarks Shootout were in attendance to present the Shootout Offshore funding request. The Lake of the Ozarks Shootout has taken over what use to be LOTO PowerFest, formerly Lake Race. The event is now known at the Shootout Offshore. The event ended in debt last year and the new organizers are working to get the event back on track. Shootout Offshore is partnering with Powerboat P1 for the event this year. There were five things that needed to happen to partner with Powerboat P1; points for the racers, purse for the racers, a safer course for the racers, a block of rooms for the racers, and a second crane for the event boats. The end result is to have the event back to when it first started 14 years ago when it partnered with the OSS. There will be lead up events to the race and will go all the way through race day and after. Last year there was a total of 30 boats and so far, this year there are 80 boats for the event. Merlyn Vandervort inquired where the awards ceremony will be held after the event, Leah stated that it will be held at Camden on the Lake. It was held at The Encore Lakeside Grill and Skybar with the option of first right of refusal, however the event coordinator from last year approved a contract with Camden on the Lake to host it this year, this is something that the current coordinators are honoring all contracts, and it is beyond their control. The request is for \$15,000, Camden County Business District will review the request at the meeting held, Thursday, February 22, 2024. Gail Griswold made a motion to approve \$3,000 for the Shootout Offshore with the agreement that the awards ceremony will be considered to be brought back to a Miller County business in the future. Russell Burdette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hot Summer Night – May through September** – The request for Hot Summer Nights which takes place on the Bagnell Dam Strip on the second Friday night from May to September, is a well-attended event for the Lake area. The Miller County Business District approved \$1,500 last year along with the Camden County Business District Small Category. Camden County Business District will review the request at the meeting held, Thursday, February 22, 2024. Gail Griswold made a motion to fund \$1,500 for Hot Summer Nights. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Big Bass Bash – Fall 2024 and Spring 2025** – The request for Big Bass Bash is for FY25 with the weigh-in locations all over the Lake area. The benefit to Miller County is in the campgrounds with 19 out of 2,280 participants reporting staying in a Miller County campground. The request will be reviewed at the Morgan County Business District meeting held Wednesday, February 21, 2024, and the Camden County Business District meeting held, Thursday, February 22, 2024. No motion was made.

**(C.) Other New Business** – None at this time.

**9. Old Business**

**(A.) Business District Bank Account** – Information obtained from OakStar Bank was discussed, Central Bank has agreed to move the account in an interest-bearing account at the same interest rate as OakStar. OakStar Bank agreed to waive the \$50 second signature fee if there was only one transaction a month, which the account

normally is, however there are some months when two or three checks are written. Russell Burdette made a motion to keep the account at Central Bank. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(B.) Other Old Business – None at this time.

#### **10. Future Dates**

Miller County Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Miller County Business District Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Joint Meeting with TCLA Board and the Business Districts of Camden and Morgan County is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

#### **11. Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Russell Burdette. Merlyn Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.