



Food & Beverage Tax Advisory Commission

Shelli Yoder- Chair

John Hamilton Amanda Barge Steve Volan

Michael Cassady Tony Suttile Lennie Busch



25 September 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present: Lennie Busch, Tony Suttile, John Hamilton, Shelli Yoder, Steve Volan, Amanda Barge

Staff: Chris Muench, County Auditor; Michael Flory, County Council Attorney; Mick Renneisen, Deputy Mayor; Jeff Underwood, City Controller; Jeff Cockerill, County Legal

Note: Add Chris Muench to the distribution list.

Meetings for the rest of the year: December meeting will be moved to the 18th.

Councilor Yoder asks if group wants to meet in Nat U. Hill or alternate between County and City. Councilor Volan says it is more convenient to always have the meeting at the same place, so future meetings will be at the Nat U Hill room in the County Courthouse.

Auditor Collections:

\$233, 550.69 collected to date; \$1,354,564.60 grand total

335 entities are now collecting; 15 more than last month.

Ms. Busch asks how up to date is the state with its reporting? She knows from her own business that state reporting lags behind what she collects. Ms. Busch asks if Auditor goes back and updates. Mr. Muench says that the state does not do updates. It is unclear whether the monthly reports are in fact a month in arrears. Commissioner Barge asks Mr. Muench to confirm whether or not the state reports are in arrears. Mr. Underwood says reporting depends on filing date and payment date, which can vary by business.

Mr. Underwood says that the monthly reporting is the actual cash collected for the prior month.

Mr. Muench says that between the 10th and 15th of each month, the State Department of Revenue sends us money for the previous month.

Councilor Yoder says the Commission needs clarification on just what the payments reflect.

Of the 80 entities that were not paying, approximately 40 have been contacted directly by the Auditor in the past month.

Mayor Hamilton—last month the Auditor's Office indicated that it would contact all 80. Mr. Muench stated that family emergencies had entered into the picture and that only 40 were actually contacted.

Commissioner Barge reports that the County Commissioners support adding staff to the Auditor's Office if necessary to deal with the demands placed on the office.

Councilor Volan asks if those who had not signed up, did they realize that they would be responsible for taxes from February 1 of 2018? Mr. Muench says they are aware of that.

Councilor Volan says he had hoped that by October we would be able to break down the City vs County collections.

Councilor Volan suggests that a committee of the FBTAC be created to work with the Auditor's Office to refine the format of information and data being presented. Commissioner Barge says that Mr. Cockerill will be working closely with that. Mr. Cockerill reports that current efforts are to have the State Department of Revenue supply the City Controller with the same information that is supplied to the County Auditor. Mr. Underwood reports that the City Corporation Counsel has been contacting the Department of Revenue on a weekly basis to see how things are progressing to provide the City with this information.

Mayor Hamilton—suggestions: Staff will need to do this reconciliation, rather than Commission members. What we need to do is an "estimated" distribution and do an end-of-the-year reconciliation.

Councilor Volan—moves that Auditor begin distributing the revenues at a rate of 90/10 City/ County split. Mayor seconds.

Discussion—Commissioner Barge says that since we don't yet have a memorandum of understanding, this seems a bit precipitous. Councilor Volan states that he would not approve of spending any money until the MOU is completed. Councilor Yoder reports that in her discussions with the Auditor, the Auditor has expressed a desire for an agreed upon split amount. Councilor Volan amends his motion to call for a 90/10 split for the next 6 months.

Committee to work with Auditor for refining data format and presentation: Councilor Volan, Mr. Suttle and Commissioner Barge.

Adjourned at 4:55 p.m.