

**LINKED MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LODGERS' TAX  
ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, HELD IN THE  
JANELL WHITLOCK MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BUILDING ON FEBRUARY 3, 2026,  
AT 7:30 P.M.**

Present:	S.S. Dara Dale Balzano Milan Patel Elizabeth Lickliter	Chairman Vice Chairman Board Member Board Member
Absent:	Amit Bhakta	Board Member
Also Present:	Angelica Barrios-Testa Jessica Ponce Cynthia Florez Jalynn Dominguez Stephan Brown Brittany Aragon  Michelle Martinez Jean Prominski Jill Barkley Stephanie Ybaben David Thomason Carolyn Olsan Gemma Ferguson Curtis McKinney Denise Green Matthew Ybarra Marih Gregory Dianne Joop Jeni Dugan Carol Belski Kyle Markstiner Tammy Neel	Director of Grant Programs Budget & Grant Analyst Administrative Coordinator Open Meetings Act Manager Compliance Clerk FixedAsset/Inventory Accountant Boys & Girls Club Carlsbad Art Association Chamber of Commerce Community Concert Association Community of Hope Center Community Threatre Carlsbad Downtown Lions Carlsbad Live Carlsbad Mainstreet Carlsbad Soccer League Cavern City Events Creative Carlsbad Fallapalooza Friend of Living Desert Park United Way Yucca Blossom Trade Days

Time Stamps and headings below correspond to recording of meeting and the recording is hereby made a part of the official record.

- 0:00:00      **1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 0:00:00      **2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**  
Roll was called, confirming a quorum.

0:00:04      **3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 4, 2025**

0:00:08      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Patel and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the meeting minutes from November 4, 2025

0:00:12      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:00:15      **4. PRESENTATION OF FY2025-2026 2ND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT - PROMOTIONAL FUND**

**Mrs. Ponce** reviewed the second-quarter financials for Fiscal Year 2026.

**Mr. Balzano** asked whether Lodgers' Tax revenues were higher or lower compared to last year. **Mrs. Ponce** responded that revenues are expected to be about the same as the previous year.

**Ms. Lickliter** noted that significantly more revenue is being generated from Airbnb properties that were not previously contributing to the fund. **Mrs. Ponce** confirmed this, explaining that those revenues are reported in a different fund and that there has been a substantial increase in Airbnb activity.

0:01:59      **5. PRESENTATION OF FY2025-2026 REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDED ALLOCATIONS CONSIDERING PROJECTED BUDGET**

**Mrs. Barrios-Testa** explained that the Finance Department conducted an assessment to establish a baseline for the upcoming fiscal year's budget. She stated that total available funds are approximately \$1.3 million and that the total funding requested exceeded that amount. She reported that 21 applications were received and that the City is recommending awarding a little over \$1 million, while setting aside a portion of the funds for additional applicants that may apply throughout the year. She added that the recommended awards were prioritized to align with Lodgers' Tax eligibility requirements.

0:06:03      **6. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB FOR FY27 THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB ADVERTISING**

**Michelle Martinez**, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club, explained that the request is for improvements to the bingo hall. She noted that bingo operations were shut down six years ago, which eliminated a key source of sustainable income. She said last year, bingo was reinstated, and the organization has since purchased e-pull tab machines. She stated that there are currently 20 machines at the bingo hall and that they are seeking to add 40 more. **Ms. Martinez** added that many residents who previously traveled to other areas to gamble are now staying in Carlsbad and using these

machines. She said the requested funds would be used for advertising, including signage on the building.

**Mr. Balzano** asked whether this effort would attract visitors to Carlsbad who would stay in local hotels. **Ms. Martinez** confirmed that the plan is to advertise in surrounding cities to draw visitors to Carlsbad.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked how often bingo games are held. **Ms. Martinez** stated that bingo is conducted on Sundays and Mondays, while the e-pull tab machines operate five days a week. **Ms. Lickliter** asked whether guests coming from other areas are primarily attending for bingo or the e-pull tab machines. **Ms. Martinez** responded that they come for both.

**Mr. Balzano** asked whether this request qualifies for Lodgers' Tax funding. **Mrs. Barrios-Testa** confirmed that it does.

0:12:01        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Patel and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve to give the Boys and Girls Club for FY27 Advertising

0:12:03        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:12:12        **7. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD AREA ART ASSOCIATION FOR THE FY27 CARLSBAD AREA ART ASSOCIATION**

**Jean Prominski**, President of the Carlsbad Area Art Association, stated that the organization is partnering with the Pearl of the Pecos and Carlsbad MainStreet to promote events to attract more visitors to Downtown Carlsbad.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked about the decrease in funding from FY25 to FY26. **Ms. Prominski** explained that the lower amount reflects the recommended funding level.

0:14:21        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mrs. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Area Art Association for the FY27 Carlsbad Area Art Association

0:14:24        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:14:35      **8.      CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE FY27 CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

**Jill Barkley**, Assistant Director of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce, stated that the organization is requesting \$330,000 for tourism and marketing efforts for the City of Carlsbad. She explained that they will continue the existing marketing program, including social media campaigns, magazine placements, radio advertising, and movie theater ads.

**Ms. Licklitter** asked whether the City's recommended reduction of \$20,000 was due to the number of funding requests received. **Mrs. Barrios-Testa** confirmed that it was.

0:17:02      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Mrs. Licklitter to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce for the FY27 Convention & Visitors Bureau

0:17:06      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Licklitter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:17:10      **9.      CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE FY27 RUMBLE ON THE PECOS CAR SHOW**

**Jill Barkley**, Chamber of Commerce, stated that last year the Chamber of Commerce took over the car show, which drew approximately 5,000 attendees. She noted that they plan to expand the event into a two-day experience to encourage overnight stays. She said planned activities include a movie showing at the Cavern Theatre on Friday evening, a car cruise, and a cookout, followed by the car show on Saturday.

**Vice Chairman Balzano** asked about last year's turnout. **Ms. Barkley** responded that the event went well, noting it was the first car show the Chamber had organized.

0:19:15      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Mrs. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce for the FY27 Rumble on the Pecos Car Show

0:19:19      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Licklitter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:19:25      **10.      CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE FY27 CHRISTMAS ON THE PECOS**

**Jill Barkley**, Chamber of Commerce, stated that the organization is requesting \$75,000, noting that this event continues to be one of the top tourism events in the state. She reported that approximately 70% of attendees at Christmas on the Pecos were non-local visitors, while about 30% were local residents.

**Chairman Dara** asked about event revenue. **Ms. Barkley** stated they anticipate generating a little over \$100,000.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how many boat drivers were involved. **Ms. Barkley** explained that they have three primary boat drivers, along with additional backup drivers. **Mr. Balzano** also asked about the policy on cancellations. **Ms. Barkley** said the event is weather-dependent, with wind being the primary factor affecting cancellations. She explained that boats cannot operate when wind speeds exceed 12 mph.

0:26:28      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Licklitter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce for the FY27 Christmas on the Pecos

0:26:37      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - Balzano, Patel, Licklitter; No - None; Abstain - S.S. Dara; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:29:41      **11.      CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION FOR THE FY27 2026/2027 SEASON**

**Stephanie Ybaben**, Vice President of the Carlsbad Community Concert Association, stated that the organization is requesting funding to support advertising efforts aimed at attracting concerts for the upcoming season. She noted that concert attendance has increased by approximately 30%.

**Ms. Licklitter** asked whether the concerts are typically held at P.R. Leyva. **Ms. Ybaben** confirmed that they are and added that some concerts may be held at the Cavern Theatre in the future.

0:31:14      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Licklitter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Community Concert Association for the FY27 2026/2027 Season

0:31:18      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:31:27      **12. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD COMMUNITY OF HOPE CENTER FOR THE FY27 JERICHO WALK AND BIKE RUN**

**David Thomason**, representing the Carlsbad Community Hope Center, stated that the organization advertises the Jericho Walk and Bike Run statewide and attracts participants from across New Mexico who often arrive on Friday and stay overnight to participate in the event on Saturday.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how the event went last year. **Mr. Thomason** explained that they were unable to participate in Lodgers' Tax funding last year, although they had received support during the previous eight years. He added that the event continues to grow annually, with increasing participation from out-of-state attendees.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked why the event did not take place last year. **Mr. Thomason** stated that they were unable to adequately prepare for it.

**Mr. Balzano** asked about the event date. **Mr. Thomason** said it is typically held over Labor Day weekend. **Mr. Balzano** also asked whether the organization generates a profit from the event. **Mr. David** confirmed that it does.

0:35:07      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Ms. Lickliter to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Community of Hope Center for the FY27 Jericho Walk and Bike Run

0:35:10      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:35:24      **13. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD COMMUNITY THEATRE FOR THE FY27 TOURISM CAMPAIGN**

**Carolyn Olsan**, Carlsbad Community Theatre, said the Lodgers' Tax funds go toward advertising through their website, social media, and individual mailings.

0:37:03      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Ms. Lickliter to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Community Theatre for the FY27 Tourism Campaign

0:37:04      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:37:30      **14. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB FOR THE FY27 LIONS CLUB DISTRICT CONVENTION**

**Gemma Ferguson**, representing Carlsbad Downtown Lions, stated that the organization will host its annual convention in Carlsbad. She explained that attendees will be traveling from across the United States and are expected to stay in Carlsbad for two nights.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how many people are expected to attend the event. **Ms. Ferguson** said they anticipate approximately 100 attendees.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked whether that number reflects out-of-town participants only. **Ms. Ferguson** clarified that the estimate includes both local and out-of-town attendees.

0:39:28      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Ms. Lickliter to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Downtown Lions Club for the FY27 Lions Club District Convention

0:39:31      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:39:40      **15. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD LIVE, LLC FOR THE FY27 WALTER GERRELLS PAC**

**Curtis McKinney**, representing Carlsbad Live, stated that the requested funds will be used for advertising upcoming shows, HogFest, and other events in Carlsbad.

**Mr. Patel** asked about the significant increase in the recommended funding from FY26 to FY27. **Mr. McKinney** explained that in FY25, Carlsbad Live did not operate at the Civic Center and primarily managed freelance shows. He said the increase reflects the larger number of shows they are now hosting.

**Mr. Balzano** asked whether the City receives any funds if Carlsbad Live generates revenue. **Mrs. Barrios-Testa** explained that Carlsbad Live operates under a contract with the City. **Mr. McKinney** added that when the facility is rented out, Carlsbad Live receives 20% of the income, while the City retains the remaining revenue.

0:48:37        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickiter and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad Live, LLC for the FY27 Walter Gerrells PAC

0:48:43        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:48:47        **16. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD MAINSTREET FOR THE FY27 POP ACD TOURISM CAMPAIGN**

**Denise Green**, Executive Director of Carlsbad MainStreet, stated that the organization has several events they would like to promote. She noted that they are partnering with New Mexico Creative Industries to host an event aimed at attracting visitors from across the region.

**Ms. Green** explained that CavernFest will be moved to Carlsbad Beach Park due to ongoing construction at the Courthouse.

**Ms. Lickliter** inquired about the farmers' market and potential relocation options. **Ms. Green** said they are considering a few possibilities, including Halagueno Arts Park or a street closure in the downtown area.

**Chairman Dara** asked why all previously awarded funds had not been fully utilized. **Ms. Green** explained that they have not yet submitted all reimbursement requests and have upcoming events that will require funding. She emphasized that they plan to increase advertising for events within the district.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked whether they intend to use all of last year's awarded funds, given the pending reimbursements. **Ms. Green** confirmed that they will.

0:54:10        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Carlsbad MainStreet for the FY27 POP ACD Tourism Campaign

0:54:14        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:54:17        **17. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD SOCCER LEAGUE FOR THE FY27 CAVERN CITY CHRISTMAS CLASSIC 2026**

**Matthew Ybarra**, Tournament Director for the Carlsbad Soccer League, stated that they are requesting funds for their third annual tournament. He noted that last year, 38 teams participated, 27 of which were from out of town.

**Ms. Licklitter** asked whether they expect to reach their \$10,000 funding request through reimbursements. **Mr. Ybarra** said they anticipate coming close to that amount and added that as the tournament continues to grow, they expect to fully reach the \$10,000 target.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how many teams they aim to attract this year. **Mr. Ybarra** said the goal is 60 teams.

**Ms. Licklitter** inquired how many families attending the tournament also participate in Christmas on the Pecos while in town. **Mr. Ybarra** replied that quite a few do, as they include information about the event in their emails and actively promote other local activities to tournament participants.

0:56:45        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Licklitter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from the Carlsbad Soccer League for the FY27 Cavern City Christmas Classic 2026

0:56:48        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Licklitter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:56:54        **18.     CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CAVERN CITY EVENTS LLC FOR THE FY27 5TH ANNUAL CAVERN CITY RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL**

**Marih Gregory** stated that they are hosting the Renaissance Festival, a two-day, family-friendly event held at the Carlsbad Beach area. She noted that last year, attendance exceeded 6,000 people.

**Ms. Licklitter** mentioned that she had seen the festival was ranked as the runner-up in the USA's Top 10 Renaissance Festivals. **Ms. Gregory** confirmed this.

0:59:04        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Licklitter and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Cavern City Events LLC for the FY27 5th Annual Cavern City Renaissance Festival

0:59:07        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Licklitter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

0:59:15      **19. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM CREATIVE CARLSBAD FOR THE FY27 ANNUAL MARKETING PLAN**

**Dianne Joop**, Creative Carlsbad, stated that they would like to use the funds to expand the advertising capacity for the Cavern City International Film Festival and an associated event aimed at fostering a local film community in Carlsbad. She explained that both events are expected to attract visitors to Carlsbad for a conference-style experience.

**Ms. Lickliter** asked whether attendees have already registered for the conference. **Ms. Joop** replied that registration has not yet opened, as they first need to set the dates and build the event's capacity.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how the event is expected to draw participants. **Ms. Joop** said they anticipate approximately 500 attendees, each staying for four nights.

1:02:27      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Balzano to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Creative Carlsbad for the FY27 Annual Marketing Plan

1:02:31      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:02:37      **20. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM FIRST METHODIST CHURCH FOR THE FY27 FALLAPALOOZA**

**Jeni Dugan**, representing Fallapalooza, stated that they plan to advertise the event in surrounding communities to attract visitors to Carlsbad. She estimated that the event will draw at least 2,000 attendees.

1:04:22      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Ms. Lickliter to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from First Methodist Church for the FY27 Fallapalooza

1:04:26      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:04:28      **21. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM FRIENDS OF LIVING DESERT PARK FOR THE FY27 TRAIL TO DISCOVERY**

**Carol Belski**, President of the Friends of the Living Desert Board, stated that they aim to maintain visibility with educational and family groups by distributing flyers throughout the community and updating their website.

**Mr. Balzano** asked whether the number of animals at the facility has changed. **Ms. Belski** responded that some species have seen increases while others have experienced decreases.

1:10:18        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms.Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from Friends of Living Desert Park for the FY27 Trail to Discovery

1:10:21        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:10:24        **22.    CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM MLK SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR THE FY27 MLK CELEBRATION 2027**

**Kyle Markstiner**, Publicity Chair for the MLK Scholarship Committee, stated that the organization has been active for forty years and hosts an annual weekend celebration each January.

1:12:13        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Balzano and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from MLK Scholarship Committee for the FY27 MLK Celebration 2027

1:12:19        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:12:26        **23.    CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM TAMMY NEEL FOR THE FY27 YUCCA BLOSSOM TRADE DAYS**

**Tammy Neel**, owner of Yucca Blossom, stated that they are planning a market featuring vendors from various areas who will travel to Carlsbad, stay overnight, and attend the event on Saturday. She explained that the requested funding will be used for advertising.

**Mr. Balzano** asked about the event location. **Ms. Neel** confirmed that it will be held at the Carlsbad Bandshell.

1:14:53        **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for \$5,000.00 Lodgers' Tax Funding from Tammy Neel for the FY27 Yucca Blossom Trade Days

1:14:54        **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:15:02      **24. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM UNITED WAY OF EDDY COUNTY FOR THE FY27 CINCO DE MAYO GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Kyle Marksteiner**, United Way, stated that this event is one of their largest annual fundraisers. He noted that last year they added a family activity following the golf tournament at the Country Club and said that this year they plan to place a greater focus on scholarships.

**Mr. Balzano** asked how many teams are expected to participate. **Mr. Marksteiner** reported that 37 teams participated last year.

1:17:46      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Patel to approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from United Way of Eddy County for the FY27 Cinco de Mayo Golf Tournament

1:17:51      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:17:55      **25. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR LODGERS' TAX FUNDING FROM UNITED WAY OF EDDY COUNTY FOR THE FY27 DANCING WITH THE EDDY COUNTY STARS**

**Kyle Markstiner**, United Way, stated that this event is intentionally designed to draw a large crowd. He noted that the Sheriff has participated as a competitor in previous years, and this year, the Warden of the detention center will also compete. He added that Midland and Odessa are key marketing areas, as many of the event sponsors come from those cities. **Mr. Markstiner** reported that the event attracted 500 attendees last year and that they are expecting more than 600 this year.

1:19:35      **MOTION**

The motion was made by Ms. Lickliter and seconded by Mr. Balzano approve the Request for Lodgers' Tax Funding from United Way of Eddy County for the FY27 Dancing with the Eddy County Stars

1:19:38      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:20:20      **26. NOMINATION AND VOTE FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE LODGERS' TAX ADVISORY BOARD**

Mr. Balzano nominated S.S. Dara for the position of Chair. Mr. Patel nominated Mr. Balzano for the position of Vice Chair.

1:20:50      **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - S.S. Dara, Balzano, Patel, Lickliter; No - None; Absent - Bhakta; the motion carried.

1:20:59      **Adjourned**

With no further business to discuss, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DRAFT