

CITY OF VERGAS
Event Center Advisory Minutes
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Teleconference
5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, August 26, 2025

The City of Vergas Event Center Advisory Committee was called to order by James Stenger on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 5:30 pm with the following members present: James Stenger, Deb Jacoby, Robert Jacoby, and Event Center Coordinator Rachel Nustad. Absent: Vanessa Perry.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Stenger at 5:30 PM.

Additions or Deletions

Motion by R. Jacoby, seconded by D. Jacoby, to approve the agenda with the following addition: Member resignation. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by R. Jacoby, seconded by D. Jacoby, to approve the minutes of July 22, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Recommendations to City Council

None

Income and Expense

2026 Budget

Nustad presented the 2026 budget, noting they would likely need to replace the furnaces which is why that line item was higher than the previous year.

R. Jacoby and D. Jacoby noticed that the Looney Days pancake breakfast was missing from the revenue list. Nustad acknowledged this oversight and noted it would add another \$350 in projected income.

Nustad proposed changing the discount for city residents from a \$500 credit for large events to a 10% discount on any event. After discussion, R. Jacoby suggested tabling this topic, until Perry could be present, as they also needed to consider whether business owners who pay taxes in the city should receive similar benefits. The board agreed to table this discussion.

2025 Income and Expense

Lammers provided the income and expenses, and no further discussion was needed.

Rental

Schedule of Events

No updates

Free and Reduced Rental Form

Nustad presented information about the free and reduced rental form that Perry had previously worked on. R. Jacoby mentioned they were trying to understand the rationale behind excluding events with liquor from receiving reduced rent, suggesting it might be related to increased risk. Stenger suggested tabling this discussion until Perry could be present at the next meeting, and the board agreed.

Building Review

Kitchen

Window/Door Closure

No update

Stove Top

No update until confirmation of the electrical system being compatible with the stove tops.

Sink Backsplash

Nustad reported that Maintenance Worker Matt Engebretson had examined it and found it would be difficult to remove the tile, suggesting it might not need replacement. Stenger strongly disagreed, noting

the tiles were already falling off and would continue to cause issues since they weren't waterproof. He recommended replacing them with a 4x8 sheet of milk board (plastic material), which would be more sustainable, easier to clean, and prevent potential mold issues. Nustad confirmed the sheet was already available in the maintenance room and just needed to be installed.

Large Meeting Room

Projector

Stenger presented his research on projector options. He had been recommended a \$2,600 model but found another with similar specifications for \$1,400. Other options explored were \$339 and \$905, but his contacts in the projection field recommended the \$1,400 model for better quality.

Stenger noted the current projector was 11 years old. He emphasized the need for a projector that could display a clear image with the lights on, which would make the space more usable for meetings and events. He confirmed he could install it himself and test it before installation to ensure it met their needs.

Lammers had informed him that since they had not spent any of their improvement budget for the current year, this would be a good time to get approval from the council, especially considering future budget constraints and the need for a new furnace.

Motion by R. Jacoby, seconded by D. Jacoby, to recommend to City Council to purchase the \$1,400 projector. The motion passed unanimously.

Tables (donation from Lion's)

D. Jacoby reported that this matter had been initiated by someone from the Lion's Club without bringing it to the Event Center Advisory Board first. She explained there was confusion about which tables were to be replaced - the Lion's Club thought the board wanted to replace the round tables, but the actual need was to replace three smaller wooden tables that were wobbly. D. Jacoby stated they would measure these tables and bring the information back to the Lion's Club. No decision had been made yet by the Lion's Club regarding the donation.

Committee: "To-Do" List

Nustad brought up the carpet on the stairs to the stage. Stenger confirmed people were falling due to the slipperiness, especially since it was dark in that area. Nustad suggested removing the carpet and applying black grip tape to prevent slipping. The board discussed not knowing what was underneath the carpet, which covered both the stairs and the landing.

Stenger also provided an update on the solar panels, confirming they were scheduled to be installed in October and operational by December. He also noted that dirt work had been done around the building to insulate the foundation, which was part of an energy grant they had received.

Meeting Date and Time

Stenger explained that the city council meeting had been pushed back with the new mayor, making it only about a week before their current meeting schedule. This timing issue meant that any items needing council approval would take almost a month to process.

There was discussion about potentially moving their meeting date to better align with the council's schedule. Various constraints were mentioned: R. Jacoby noted the second Tuesday conflicted with Lions Club meetings, and Stenger mentioned he had work commitments starting on Wednesdays.

After discussion, the board decided to table the decision until they could consult with Perry and the new Lions Club representative who would be replacing D. Jacoby.

Member Resignation

D. Jacoby formally announced her resignation from both the Lions Board and the Event Center Advisory Board. She confirmed she had already informed the Lions Club, who would be appointing a new representative, and had submitted her resignation letter to Lammers.

Motion by R. Jacoby, seconded by Stenger, to recommend that the council accept D. Jacoby's resignation. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Stenger, seconded by R. Jacoby, to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Nustad, Deputy Clerk
Event Center Coordinator
(Assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Council Recommendations

Purchase projector for \$1400
Accept D. Jacoby's resignation

Follow Up Actions

Nustad and D. Jacoby will do more research on the tables after speaking with other Lions Board Members.

Find out what's under the carpet on the stairs.

Nustad will have Engebretson install the sink backsplash.

Perry will look into options for window/door closures.