

CITY OF VERGAS  
 Event Center Advisory Minutes  
 Vergas Event Center & Zoom Teleconference  
 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
James Stenger, Council Appointment	P	P										
Vanessa Perry, Member	A	P										
Rachel Nustad, Member	P	P										
Robert Jacoby, Member	P	P										
Jay Norby, Member	A	P										

*P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No meeting*

**Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Stenger at 3:00 PM.

**Additions and Deletions**

None.

**Minutes**

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Perry, to approve the minutes from January 14, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

**Status of Recommendations to City Council**

None.

**Income and Expense**

A new spreadsheet tracking event rentals and income was presented. It was explained that this document would be regularly updated with new bookings and revenue to give the board visibility into events and income being generated. This spreadsheet is in addition to, not a replacement for, regular financial reports.

**Rental**

**Events to raise awareness**

Nustad presented an idea for hosting board game nights for children during winter months when the facility has less activity. The concept, tentatively called "Board Kids," would provide tables with various board games, potentially selling concessions or charging a nominal admission fee. The Lions Club could potentially be involved to help. Stenger and Nustad also discussed reviving the idea of hosting an '80s prom event at the center. This event would showcase the venue's capabilities, allow for promotional photos, and serve as a fundraiser. The target timeframe would be around the same time next year. A radio ad for the Event Center began broadcasting that day on station 104.1.

**Rental Form**

Stenger reported that he and Nustad are working on updating the rental form to address rate discrepancies. They expect to have a finalized form for the next meeting. Since it's after the first of the year, public notices about rate changes will be required.

**Evening Zumba**

Nustad informed the board that the evening Zumba group has decided to cancel their sessions due to cost concerns and has relocated. The morning Zumba group will continue to use the Event Center. Nustad noted that evening Zumba brought in \$645 in revenue for 2025. Board members discussed the situation but concluded there wasn't much that could be done. At \$15 per class, the fee was already considered reasonable, especially compared to similar fitness classes in the area that charge the same amount for individual attendance. The board acknowledged that while they would prefer to offer the space at lower rates for community activities, the operational costs and need for revenue made this impractical.

## **Building Review**

### **Cooler**

The board discussed the status of the coolers. Jacoby inquired whether there had been any freezing issues since the previous incident at the Fireman's Banquet. There was uncertainty about whether the coolers are currently running constantly or turned on only before events. The discussion included the energy efficiency of the coolers, with Perry noting that they use relatively little electricity when not frequently opened. The board considered having the coils cleaned as maintenance, with suggestions to ask Brian Perry or possibly the city maintenance employees before considering a professional service, which could cost around \$500. Jacoby expressed hesitation about investing significant money in the coolers if they aren't frequently used.

### **Stage**

Stenger reported that he had received quotes for stairs for the front of the stage. The options include stairs that fold up compactly (to about 8 inches) for storage, with one version on wheels and one without. The board briefly discussed Perry's previous idea about removable railings for safety, though no decisions were made on this feature.

### **Policy**

Stenger explained that after the previous meeting, there was discussion with the city council about policy changes, particularly regarding safety concerns and the process for addressing them. Nustad provided both the current policy and a draft of proposed changes for the board to review.

The board discussed several specific points in the policy document:

1. A suggestion to modify section 5(e) to broaden the city maintenance staff's responsibilities from "setting up chairs for funerals and public hearings" to "event set up and tear down as needed" to avoid potential pushback on non-funeral events.
2. Concerns about the security requirements for events, including inconsistency in application and questions about effectiveness. Perry noted that the security guards have limited authority and questioned their value. Some members suggested exploring the history and origin of the security requirement (possibly dating back to 2001 or earlier) and whether it could be made optional rather than mandatory.

The board decided to postpone making recommendations on the policy until members had more time to review the documents thoroughly.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Jacoby, seconded by Perry, to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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

### **Council Recommendations**

None.

### **Follow Up Actions**

- Nustad: Look into getting the coils cleaned in the cooler.
- Nustad: Look into the history and requirements for security at events (including when the requirement started and if it is mandated), and report back to the group.
- Stenger: Obtain and review quotes for stage stairs and decide on purchase.
- Stenger and Nustad: Finalize the updated rental form with possible rate changes and present at next meeting.
- Board: Review the draft policy document (with changes highlighted, if possible) and provide feedback at the next meeting.