MINUTES
LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 27, 2026

TIME: 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm called to order at 4:30pm

PLACE: This meeting will be conducted in person at City Hall in the 1st Floor Conference Room, Suite 111. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting and is unable to attend in person should contact the city clerk's office, cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.

LTAC: Aimee Vaile, Chair, Battle Ground City Council (present)
Alkesh Patel, Collector (present)
Trent Niarkos, Collector (present)
Jessica Cole, Generator (present)
John Idsinga, Generator (present)

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Review and approval of minutes for September 8, 2025 Al Patel made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Jessical Cole seconded, minutes passed unanimously.
2. Review of accounts payable end of 2025 and 2026 thus far: Finance Director Meagan Lowery went over Accounts Payable items from the end of 2025 and thus far in 2026.
   2025
   - Harvest Days $39,843
   - Best Western $402.16
   - Evoke Cascadia $2,500

   2026
   - Best Western $9,047
   - Southwest Washington Winery Association $10,000
3. Cash Balance - $302,910 Finance Director Meagan Lowery gave the cash balance to the Committee.
4. Old Business
   - None
5. New Business
   - Review of allowable uses of lodging tax under state law
     i. Tourism marketing
     ii. Marketing and operations of special events and festivals designed to attract tourists
     iii. Operations and capital expenditures of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by a municipality or a public facilities district, including repayment of general obligation bonds or revenue bonds for eligible capital projects

iv. Operations of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by nonprofit organizations (but not capital expenditures)
    1. "Tourism" means economic activity resulting from tourists, which may include sales of overnight lodging, meals, tours, gifts, or souvenirs.
    2. "Tourism promotion" means activities, operations, and expenditures designed to increase tourism, including but not limited to advertising, publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists; developing strategies to expand tourism operating tourism promotion agencies; and funding the marketing of or the operation of special events and festivals designed to attract tourists.

v. The entities that may apply for lodging tax are:
    1. Convention and visitors bureaus
    2. Destination marketing organizations
    3. Nonprofits, including main street organizations, lodging associations, or chambers of commerce
    4. Municipalities

Finance Director Meagan Lowery went over the allowed uses of the lodging funds.

- Proposed lodging tax application scoring system Committee discussed proposed scoring system but decided to follow prior year format of discussing applications and funding based on discussions.

6. Next Committee Meeting: Next Committee Meeting September 28, 2026

Meeting Adjourned at 5:37pm

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