

## **OFVO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 (Tuesday, March 19, 2024)

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Attending via teleconference were Executive Director Tim Williams, Nathan Cherrington, board members Jason Atkinson, Liz Cook Mowe, Paul Loving, Rosemary Colliver, and Anish Savjani.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Recognizing a quorum of board members, Jason called the meeting to order on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 12:02pm.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Rosemary moved that the board accept the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023 Board Meeting minutes. Anish seconded. All in favor. The board minutes were approved unanimously.

### **BOARD UPDATE**

- Board Dinner recap - Jason mentioned that his first experience with this board was at a board dinner with Tim. He thanked Tim and his staff for their work on the recent board dinner.

### **BUDGET UPDATE**

- 2023-25 Budget Summary review: All is on track. The budget is in good shape and the larger budgetary items from 2023 (website redesign and econ dev report) are now complete.

Tim asked if there were any questions. There were none.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Untitled TV Series
  - OFVO recently landed a large TV series that will shoot in and around Portland from May-Oct 2024. This has meant a larger commitment of OPIF funds that has been necessitated in the past. The funds are available because the WQGA and SAG strikes in 2023 have meant that unused OPIF funds were carried over into this year making more OPIF funding available than in most previous years. Securing this large series for downtown and Old Town Portland seemed like a vital tool for the revitalization of the city so the decision was made to commit the OPIF funding to get the project here (beating out Boston and Chicago).
  - Anish asked if the production is aware that if they come back for a season 2 that we may not have the incentive money for them. Tim mentioned that, yes, he did explain that to them in their initial dealings.
  - Jason asked how a second season might work out for them. He asked what we might consider doing in terms of increasing incentive funding or what other options we may think about in order to help get keep Criminal here for a second season if possible. Tim mentioned that going in to the 2025 legislative session with an ask for additional funding for OPIF is one option and that he is also entertaining other options as well.

- Our office building has been sold and Tim has met the new landlords. They are being very proactive about not only finding new tenants for the building but also making adjustments to the building for existing tenants. So far, the interaction with the new owners has been very positive/
- Tim recently attended the McMinnville Shot Film Festival. There are also new dates for the Ashland Ind FF putting it into October in 2024. This will make it directly compete with both BendFilm and the Eastern Oregon FF also in Oct, not to mention the Klamath Ind FF in September.
- Two weeks ago the Portland Film office put together a broad meeting go many of the Portland city bureaus to discussing the permitting and location challenges of a large TV series in Portland. The meeting was well attended and very positive. Neighborhood associations from downtown and Old Town were also in attendance and positive about the prospect of filming this summer.
- OFVO held a free virtual trading about “preventing harm on set” last week. This was run by Windy Borman who is being commissioned through the C retail Opportunity Program and was intended to help people understand the way to deal with, talk about and report abusive or inappropriate behavior on films sets and studios.
- Tim is revising the OFVO DEI and Affirmative Action Plans that are required by the Gov’s office from all agencies and are due by June 1.
- There is an overall worry of more strikes from the IATSE and Teamsters impacting the industry in July. This has meant several projects are coming in to town and wanting to be completed with the filming by the end of June.
- OFVO ran ads in Filmmaker Magazine this month as well as banner ads on the Filmmaker site for 2 more months. The Portland Film Office also ran ads in MovieMaker Mag this month.
- We have been getting some great publicity from recent projects that have shot here in Oregon. Most notably an interview with Dean Israelite the director of “Little Wing” (out now on Paramount+) and Kyle Hausmann Stokes the wri/director of “My Dead Friend Zoe” that premiered and won and audience award at SXSW.
- Jane is making as proposal to KGW/Pioneer Sq to repurpose the broadcast space downtown into a kick off point for the Oregon Film Trail and a training and educational space for our industry.

Tim asked if there were any questions. Jason asked if the Pioneer Sq. space would need to be retrofitted for our needs. Tim responded that he thinks that it can be used pretty much as is. Jason asked if there were and additional questions. There were none.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- The Creative Opp Program is working well. The partnership programs in particular continue to allow our office to connect wit communities and regions across the state by providing funding and support for projects. This, connected with the grants done’ directly through the OMCf, have meant that the impact of the COP is better than expected.
- The [OregonFilm.org](http://OregonFilm.org) Website launch was successful and the new design is working well. So far there have not been any issues with the relaunch and the Knowledge Base structure has been utilized well to give clear and updatable information to set visitors.

- A Variety Spotlight ad/article(s) came out on Jan 25 and was very helpful in spreading the word about working here in Oregon. Overall it was a success and we thank our partners for helping to make it happen.

Tim asked if there were any questions. There were none.

#### **OMCF:**

- There is a new Film Trail sign going up past the Geiser Grand Hotel in Baker City
- There have been x8 Pathways placements in 2024 thus far and we are holding a new training class with Outside the Frame on March 30 to create new trainees for the series and films coming to town this summer.
- We will launch the submission period for the Tell Your Story Grant in April.

Tim asked if there were any questions. Liz asked how the word typically gets out regarding the available grants. Tim responded that information and notices regarding the grants are almost entirely sent out via Oregon Film's social media channels.

#### **PROJECT UPDATE**

- Out now: Little Wing (Paramount), In the Know (Peacock)
- Three feature films recently completed production, two in Portland and one in Tillamook County (Pacific City). A fourth feature was set to start work in Salem this month but unfortunately had to shut down because of financing issues.
- There is a large TV series and at least 3 feature films that will be coming soon (May-July).
- Animation projects - Both ShadowMachine & Laika have projects in production.
- Refuge VFX has work out now on both "Shogun" (Hulu) and "Fallout" (Amazon)

Tim asked if there were any questions. There were none.

#### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE-**

- Tim attended 32 legislative meetings focusing on updating new members and giving members data on the current state of the industry. He left behind a simple two sided handout that give some data from the Econ Dev report, the COP and projects that are out now. He also sent an email update to all of the members about recent projects and upcoming releases right after the short session ended.
- As a board and office we will need to think about a 2025 legislative strategy and whether anything should be address via-a-vis the OPIF fund.
- Tim has updated Vince Porter in the Gov's office on all of this upcoming and recent work and would like to get both Vince and the Gov to do a set visit this summer.

Jason asked if there were any questions/comments. There were none.

Jason declared the meeting adjourned at 12:42 pm.