



City of Independence

**Independence Days Ad Hoc Board Meeting
Monday, September 15, 2025 @ 9:30 AM
Civic Center - Council Chambers**

(see agenda footer for meeting attendance information)

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Minutes**
 - 3.1. Regular Meeting 08/25/2025
4. **Visitors/Public Comment**
5. **Unfinished Business**
 - 5.1. Future Options and Transition Discussion
6. **New Business**
7. **Adjournment**

Meeting Attendance Information:

The City Council will hold this meeting in-person in City Hall Council Chambers, via video conference (Zoom) or by phone.

- To attend in person, the City Hall address is 555 S. Main St.
- For Zoom login
visit: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87247043627?pwd=kYaCvu74KyYbHizT7tNBQ35UaEYyJp.1>
- To participate in the meeting **by phone**, dial **US: +1-253-215-8782** and enter **Webinar ID: 872 4704 3627** and **Passcode: 427570**

Written comments are also welcome and may be delivered to City Hall or emailed to CouncilComments@ci.independence.or.us no later than 4:00 pm the day of the meeting.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, should be made at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to Myra Russell, City Recorder, 503-838-1212/TTY: 800-735-2900.



City of Independence Minutes

Independence Days Ad Hoc Board Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2025

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM
2. **Roll Call.**
Present: Chair Marilyn Morton
Board Member Bill Boisvert
Board Member Shannon Corr
Board Member Miranda Garrison
Board Member Vidal Pena-arrived at 9:34 AM

Absent: None

City Staff Present: Kenna West, City Manager
Myra Russell, City Recorder
Lyle Gilbert, Police LT
Aaron Wimer, Public Works
3. **Minutes.**
 - 3.1. **Regular Meeting 07/07/2025.**
Action:
Board Member Boisvert moved to Approve the minutes of the 7-7-2025 regular meeting as submitted; Board Member Corr seconded. Voice vote. Motion 5-0-0
Ayes: Marilyn Morton, Bill Boisvert, Shannon Corr, Miranda Garrison, Vidal Pena
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
4. **Visitors / Public Comments.** 4.1. Jake Yoakum-Independence Resident: a producer with experience in a cappella events, expressed interest in assisting with the upcoming event, offering his expertise and potential organizational support, though he clarified he could not provide financial funding.
5. **Reports / Presentations.**
6. **Unfinished Business.**
7. **New Business.**
 - 7.1. **Extension Request Outcome.**
Ad Hoc Board was extended for 3 more months by approval of City Council.

7.2. **Future Options and Transition Discussion.**

The group discussed the future of the Independence Day Festival, with Independence expressing a desire for a community-led organization rather than city staff management. Andrea Van Heeswyk explained the possibility of creating a 501c3 organization to take over the event with the help of several of the current Independence Days commissioners. The discussion touched on potential sponsorship opportunities, including involvement from the Y, and addressed concerns about maintaining continuity and accountability in the event's leadership. The board asked Van Heeswyk to bring back a high-level strategic plan. The board agreed to a timeline where Van Heeswyk will present an outline of plans to the board on September 15, followed by a full presentation and recommendation to City Council by the board (Board Member Boisvert) on October 14. This was approved by consensus. Discussion on dissolving Independence Days Commission through City.

8. **Adjournment.** Action:

Board Member Corr moved to Adjourn; Board Member Boisvert seconded. Chair Morton adjourned the meeting at 10:12 am.

Minutes submitted by:
Myra Russell, City Recorder