

**Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Board of Directors Meeting**

Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:30 pm
ZOOM Call

Members Present: Greg Eby, Jason Hughes, Joy Sloan, Gary Dunlap, Michele Keeling, Joseph Fuller, Stephanie Issacs, Steve White, Tammye Howell, Dr. Ronald Ramming, Stacy Burns, Jon Stogsdill, Alma Pickle, Scott Robinson

Ex-Officio Non-Voting: Angela Wilson, Mike Miller, Marie Synar, Marlon Coleman

Not Present: TyJuan Walker, Eric Anderson, J. Tyler Hammons, Tony Pivec, Dr. Jarod Mendenhall, Corey Sisson

Staff: Justin O'Neal, Sherry Pilant, Corynne Jewson, Amanda Johnson, Amber Crall

I. Call to order – Greg Eby

- 3:36 pm

II. Approval of Minutes – Greg Eby

- Motion to approve minutes for the July 21, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting was made by Jason Hughes. Tammye Howell seconded.
The motion carried with the following votes: **AYE** – 10. **NO** – None. **ABSTAIN** – 2(J. Sloan, S. Robinson).
The motion carried.

III. Acceptance of June 2020 Chamber Financials – Jason Hughes

Jason Hughes presented financial reports for July 2020.

- Joseph Fuller made a motion to accept the financial report. Joy Sloan seconded.
The motion carried with the following votes: **AYE** – 12. **NO** – None. **ABSTAIN** – None.
The motion carried unanimously.

Steve White joined the meeting at 3:38 pm

IV. President's Executive Report – Angela Wilson

- Angela Wilson presented the Executive Report
 - Total Chamber Members: 489
 - Total 2020 Membership Dues collected: \$143,786
 - 2020 Membership Dues Outstanding: \$17,717
 - Total Non-Dues Revenue Collected: \$79,565
 - New Members Since Last Meeting: 2
 - New Member Dues Collected in 2020: \$3,797
 - Outstanding Non-Dues Revenue for 2020: \$25,308
 - Total Tourism Revenue/Reimbursement: \$131,017
- Angela reported that she and J. Tyler Hammons met with city leadership regarding the Tourism contract. The chamber will no longer have the Tourism contract effective October 30, 2020. She is working on getting all contracts, files, etc. that are tourism assets together so that it will be an easy transition for the city.
- Angela reported that she participated in the Tulsa Chamber OneVoice Development, Economy & Taxes task force meeting to decide what will be included in the OneVoice Agenda for 2021. There are a few other areas that she will be participating in as well.

- The Chamber & Tourism websites are officially separated. The chamber website is muskogeechamber.org and the Tourism website is visitmuskogee.com. Please check out the new Chamber website.
- The Chamber & Tourism staff are back in the office part-time and working part-time at home; however, the doors are still locked when we are in the office.
- Ruth Littlefield will facilitate our Board Retreat next month on Friday, September 25th. We will host the retreat in person. There will be plenty of social distancing. If you would like to attend virtually, please get with Angela to make arrangements.
- Angela asked that our current board start thinking about new Board Member nominations, as the nomination committee will meet soon to discuss new Board Member for 2021.

Dr. Ronald Ramming joined the meeting at 3:45 pm.

V. Membership Report – Amanda Johnson

Amanda Johnson reported on current membership and new members. She presented the Business Spotlight of the month for August to Good Shepherd Hospice. She reported that she has met with several prospective members over the last few weeks and expects that they will complete their membership application soon. The Ambassadors committee met on August 5th and will meet again on September 2nd.

Amanda Johnson presented the following member for approval: Broadway Market, Tommy Nix Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM of Muskogee

- Jason Hughes made a motion to approve the new members as presented. Joseph Fuller seconded. The motion carried with the following votes: **AYE** – 13. **NO** – None. **ABSTAIN** – 1(Dr. R. Ramming). The motion carried.

Amanda Johnson recommended the following members be dropped: Burke’s Outlet, Integrity Pathways, Lexi Lambert-Bios Corporation, Masonic Building Association, Morgan Services Co., LLC, U.S. Cellular

- Joy Sloan made a motion to drop members as presented. Jason Hughes seconded. The motion carried with the following votes: **AYE** – 14. **NO** – None. **ABSTAIN** – None. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Program & Committee Reports

Staff presented Program/Committee reports(Attached).

VII. Tourism Reports

Amber Crall presented the Tourism financial report for July 2020

- Jason Hughes made a motion to accept the June 2020 Tourism Financial Report. Steve White seconded. The motion carried with the following votes: **AYE** – 14. **NO** – None. **ABSTAIN** – None. The motion carried unanimously.

Justin O’Neal presented the Tourism Director’s Report as follows:

- For the month of July Hotel/Motel tax collection was just under \$80,000. This is much higher than the city expected due to COVID-19.
- We hosted 155 professional golfers last week for the APT Real Okie Classic at the Muskogee Golf Club.
- Okie Jeep Jam will be held at Hatbox October 2-4, 2020. There are already more registrations than last year, so we expect it will be a very successful event.

VIII. **Other Reports:**

City of Muskogee: Mike Miller reported that even through COVID-19 there are new things coming to Muskogee. There is a new furniture store that has opened in the old Staple's building on Shawnee Bypass, and McAlister's Deli should be open in the next couple of months. Sales tax numbers are up, and they believe that this is due to residents not traveling to make purchases out of town. There was a Ribbon Cutting held today at the City of Muskogee Animal Shelter. It is a greatly improved space for the homeless animals of Muskogee. He also reported that the new building at Hatbox should be completed in a couple of months, which will add a lot of value to the area.

Port of Muskogee/Industrial Development: Scott Robinson reported that GMMA will have their monthly meeting tomorrow, August 19th virtually, featuring Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell. The Port is very much still in recovery, both from the flood and hazard mitigation. They will begin construction soon to build a levy around the port to attempt to prevent flooding again in the future. There are currently \$19 mil in projects currently underway at the Port.

Adjourned 4:09 pm.

Minutes approved by:

Angela Wilson
President & CEO
Board Secretary

Greg Eby
Board Chair