

This is to certify that in conformity with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, public notice of the date, time and place of this meeting was filed with the City Clerk of Durant on the 12th day of November, 2019 and that an agenda of said meeting was posted at the place of such meeting at 3:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF DURANT TOURISM
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF January 8, 2020 AT 3:00 PM, Roscoe J.
Hatfield Council Chambers, 300 West Evergreen, Durant, Oklahoma**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Thorpe called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

INVOCATION/FLAG SALUTE

Trustee Reed provided the invocation. Nathan Roach led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Trustee Debbie Anthony
Trustee Dennis Garrett
Trustee Janet Reed
Vice Chairman Danny Sherrer
Chairman Jim Thorpe

Absent:

Trustee Charles Calhoun
Trustee Tammy Cross

Chairman Thorpe declared a quorum.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Website Update

Trustee Reed stated she was told by Chris Pierce of Computer Services that the website would be up and running today. Chairman Thorpe stated the website must be up and running by February 1, 2020.

2. Consideration and Action - Approval of Minutes for November 13, 2019 Regular Called Meeting and December 11, 2019 No Quorum Meeting

It was stated for the record that there was not a quorum on December 11, 2019 resulting in that meeting not being held as scheduled.

Motion was made by Trustee Reed and seconded by Trustee Anthony to approve the regular called meeting minutes of November 13, 2019.

Motion Passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Anthony, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: Garrett

3. Review DTEDA Financial Reports - November 2019 - Treasurer

Trustee Garrett stated since the Durant Tourism Economic Development Authority is paying the City of Durant to handle the finances, the city treasurer should be in attendance at the meetings and prepared to provide a report. City Clerk Cynthia Price contacted City Treasurer AnChen Lai at the Authority Board's request and summoned her to the council room. Discussion followed and the Authority Board decided that if they had any questions regarding the financial reports they would submit their questions or concerns to Trustee Reed prior to the meeting. Trustee Reed would then contact City Treasurer AnChen Lai to address their questions or concerns. Trustee Reed would then report back to the Authority Board.

City Treasurer AnChen Lai arrived and stepped forward to answer questions from the Authority Board regarding the November 2019 financial report.

4. Discuss and Consider Approval of Expenditures for Economic Development/Work Force

NO ACTION

Chairman Thorpe proposed creating a workshop with local corporate chief executive officers to assist with advertising of jobs not only through billboards but also on television stations which broadcast in the Denison/Sherman area and potentially the Dallas area. Chairman Thorpe also proposed holding an additional job fest to further attract potential employees. Trustee Garrett stated he had concerns about the involvement of the Durant Tourism Economic Development Trust Authority (DTEDA) being involved as job recruitment was a function of the Durant Industrial Authority (DIA). Discussion followed. Trustee Garrett suggested once a full time director is hired for the DIA and if that person seeks a partnership for funds for advertising, it would be more appropriate than the DTEDA taking the lead. Trustee Reed stated the Durant Area Chamber of Commerce has an Industrial Manufacturing Committee that is currently working on initiatives to attract employees. Chairman Thorpe suggested presenting this to DTEDA legal counsel for review and recommendation. Trustee Reed stated she agrees with Trustee Garrett that this should be a partnership rather than DTEDA taking the lead. Trustee Reed suggested Chairman Thorpe request Paul Buntz, Interim Executive Director of the DIA, add this item to the upcoming agenda of the DIA Board scheduled for January 13, 2020. Chairman Thorpe requested Trustee Reed contact Mr. Buntz on his behalf and Trustee Reed agreed.

5. Discuss and Consider Approval for Durant Area Chamber of Commerce (Representative of DTEDTA) monthly management fee for January 2020 in the amount of \$6,250 and February 2020 in the amount of \$6,250

Motion was made by Trustee Sherrer and seconded by Trustee Anthony to approve Durant Area Chamber of Commerce (Representative of DTEDTA)

monthly management fee for January 2020 in the amount of \$6,250 and February 2020 in the amount of \$6,250.

Motion Passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Anthony, Garrett, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: Reed

6. Informational Items

- a. Durant Area Chamber of Commerce Activity Report
- b. Highway 69/75 Billboard Bottom Panel
- c. Westside Drive Billboard

7. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no citizen comments.

8. Old Business

Trustee Reed stated there is a company advertising bus tours that would visit the dispensaries in Durant, Madill and Atoka. Attendees have the option of a regular tour, toke-n-yoga tour or puff pass and pamper tour and will be allowed to purchase products from the dispensaries at a reduced price. Trustee Reed shared a flyer for the tour with the Board.

Chairman Thorpe proposed upcoming agendas be posted and agenda packets sent out no later than Thursday prior to the scheduled meeting.

9. New Business

Nathan Roach, Tourism Specialist with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma reviewed several upcoming events.

Trustee Reed stated the Chamber is going to put together a packet of advertising materials for the Board members. She would like for the Board members to review the packet and provide feedback as to which of the materials they feel are advertising worthy.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Trustee Reed and seconded by Trustee Anthony to adjourn meeting.

Motion Passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Anthony, Garrett, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None