

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 February 6, 2020.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF DURANT TOURISM  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF February 12, 2020 AT 3:00 PM, Roscoe  
J. Hatfield Council Chambers, 300 West Evergreen, Durant, Oklahoma**

*Brandon Johnson was sworn in as a board member and will replace Dennis Garrett.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Thorpe called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**INVOCATION/FLAG SALUTE**

Trustee Johnson provided the invocation. Trustee Reed led the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Trustee Charles Calhoun  
Trustee Tammy Cross\*  
Trustee Brandon Johnson  
Trustee Janet Reed  
Vice Chairman Danny Sherrer  
Chairman Jim Thorpe

\* denotes partial attendance

Absent:

Trustee Debbie Anthony

Chairman Thorpe declared a quorum.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**1. Website Update**

Chris Pierce of Computer Services addressed the Authority Board and stated the website ([www.discoverdurant.com](http://www.discoverdurant.com)) has been operational for 2-3 weeks. Discussion followed regarding options for videos and advertising on social media. Trustee Reed stated she would like to have the grant applications in fillable form on the website.

*Trustee Cross left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.*

**2. Consideration and Action - Approval of Minutes for January 8, 2020 Regular Called Meeting**

APPROVED

Motion was made by Trustee Reed and seconded by Trustee Sherrer to approve the regular called meeting minutes of January 8, 2020.

Ayes: Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: Calhoun, Johnson

FAILED - There were not enough votes to allow this vote to pass. This matter will be carried over to the March 11, 2020 meeting for consideration.

**3. Review DTEDA Financial Reports - December 2019 - Treasurer**

Jennifer Taylor presented the Durant Tourism Economic Development Authority (DTEDA) Financial Report - December 2019.

Ms. Taylor was asked to request the city treasurer include an expenditure sheet with future reports.

**4. Discuss and Consider Approval of Hiring Legal Counsel**

TABLED

Chairman Thorpe addressed the Authority Board and recommended Attorney Martin Dyer be hired as legal counsel. Chairman Thorpe was not able to provide details of the payment arrangement and was asked to present a cost structure at the March 11, 2020 regular meeting.

Motion was made by Trustee Calhoun and seconded by Trustee Reed to table this item.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

**5. Discussion and/or Approval for Future Grants to be Juried by 3 Qualified Anonymous Outside Sources**

TABLED

Jennifer Taylor addressed the Authority Board and stated the outside sources would come from the State Chamber, the Department of Commerce and Tourism. The outside sources stated they would require anonymity. They would judge the applications based on the criteria selected by the Authority Board. A final score would be determined and provided to the Authority Board. The funding would be based on the final score. Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Trustee Calhoun and seconded by Trustee Reed to table this item and consult with legal counsel for the purpose of reviewing the current grading system and procedure and obtaining a legal opinion.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

## **6. Request and Consider Approval of Grant Applications**

### **a. Durant Riding Club**

APPROVED

Motion was made by Trustee Calhoun and seconded by Trustee Sherrer to approve the grant application from Durant Riding Club in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

### **b. SE Rodeo**

APPROVED

Motion was made by Trustee Johnson and seconded by Trustee Sherrer to approve the grant application from Southeastern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

### **c. Silo Softball Team**

TABLED

Motion was made by Trustee Reed and seconded by Trustee Calhoun to table this item for the reason that additional documentation is required before the claim can be considered.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

### **d. Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma**

APPROVED

Motion was made by Trustee Sherrer and seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the grant application from the Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: Reed

**7. Discuss and Consider Approval for Durant Area Chamber of Commerce (Representative of DTEDTA) Monthly Management Fee for March 2020 in the amount of \$6,250 and April 2020 in the amount of \$6,250**

APPROVED

Motion was made by Trustee Sherrer and seconded by Trustee Calhoun to approve Durant Area Chamber of Commerce (Representative of DTEDTA) monthly management fee for March 2020 in the amount of \$6,250 and April 2020 in the amount of \$6,250.

Motion Passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: Reed

**8. Informational Items**

a. Durant Area Chamber of Commerce Activity Report

**9. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

There were no citizen comments.

**10. Report from Choctaw Nation Tourism Department**

Nathan Roach presented a summary of recent and upcoming events.

**11. Old Business**

Chairman Thorpe - Monument signifying partnership between the Choctaw Nation and the City of Durant;

Provide local corporations assistance with workforce recruitment allowing Durant Industrial Authority to take the lead;

Trustee Reed - There will be a bus group bringing about 30 people to Durant from the Lawton, OK area.

**12. New Business**

Chairman Thorpe - Asked Jennifer Taylor to contact the Durant Multi-Sports Complex and review the upcoming tournament schedule and report back to the Authority Board.

Chairman Thorpe stated he will be stepping down as Chairman of the Board after the May 2020 meeting. He is willing to continue to serve on the board but not in the chairman capacity.

Trustee Sherrer - Would like to look further into social media/facebook advertising.

Jennifer Taylor - Asked board members to provide her with a headshot for the website.

### **Adjournment**

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

Motion Passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Calhoun, Johnson, Reed, Sherrer, Thorpe

Abstain: None

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the original minutes in draft form. The minutes contained herein have not been approved by the Durant Tourism Economic Development Authority and are scheduled to appear on the March 11, 2020 regular agenda for consideration.

**CYNTHIA J. PRICE, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF DURANT, OKLAHOMA**

---