

MINUTES

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
MUSKOGEE TOURISM AUTHORITY
MAY 18, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Muskogee Tourism Authority met in a Regular Session at 4:00 p.m., on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at Home 2 Suites by Hilton located at 2819 Military Boulevard, Muskogee, Oklahoma, with Chairman Daniel Chepkauskas residing.

Item 1: Roll call and recognize Citizens wishing to speak. **(Daniel Chepkauskas, Chairman)**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Daniel Chepkauskas and the roll was called as follows:

Present: Chair Daniel Chepkauskas; Secretary/Treasury Tracy Cole; Trustee Mike Gragg; Trustee Mark Patel; Trustee Tim Wheeler

Absent: Vice Chair Evelyn Hibbs; Trustee Sharon Champlin; Trustee Traci McGee; Trustee Aanje Wilkerson

Staff Present: Tammye Howell, Executive Director of Tourism; Avery Frix, President, Oxford Productions; John Tyler Hammons, Attorney; Angie O’Neal, Assistant to John Tyler Hammons

Trustee Traci McGee entered meeting at 4:01

Item 5: Motion Made to consider Item 5 first due to visitors and speakers concerning this item.

Motion made by Chairman Daniel Chepkauskas and seconded by Trustee Mike Gragg.

AYE: Chair Daniel Chepkauskas; Secretary/Treasury Tracy Cole; Trustee Mike Gragg; Trustee Traci McGee; Trustee Mark Patel; Trustee Tim Wheeler

NAY: None

OTHER: Vice Chair Evelyn Hibbs; Trustee Sharon Champlin; Trustee Aanje Wilkerson

The Chairman declared the motion approved.

(Item 5) Consider approval of Event Sponsorship grant for Cruis’n Angels Car Club or take other necessary action. (Daniel Chepkauskas, Chairman)

Mr. Gary Thomas of the Cruis’n Angels Car Club spoke of the Car Show’s 25th Anniversary to be held the following Saturday, May 20, 2023 at Hatbox. The 2022 show featured 140 cars and raised \$9,000 and was split between three local charities.

After the presentation, Trustee Patel noted that the application date was April 3, 2022 and was not presented to the Advisory Committee. Executive Director Tammy Howell explained that due to the amount being below \$500.00 that the grant request comes straight to the Board for approval. She also explained that no applications were submitted for May.

Motion was made by Trustee Tim Wheeler and seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Tracy Cole to grant the request for the Cruis'n Angels Car Show.

AYE: Chair Daniel Chepkauskas; Secretary/Treasury Tracy Cole; Trustee Mike Gragg; Trustee Traci McGee; Trustee Mark Patel; Trustee Tim Wheeler

NAY: None

OTHER: Vice Chair Evelyn Hibbs; Trustee Sharon Champlin; Trustee Aanje Wilkerson

The Chairman declared the motion approved.

Item 2: Consider approval of Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2023, or take other necessary action. (Daniel Chepkauskas, Chairman)

Motion made by Chairman Daniel Chepkauskas to approve the minutes as prepared, seconded by Trustee Traci McGee.

AYE: Chair Daniel Chepkauskas; Secretary/Treasury Tracy Cole; Trustee Mike Gragg; Trustee Traci McGee; Trustee Mark Patel; Trustee Tim Wheeler

NAY: None

OTHER: Vice Chair Evelyn Hibbs; Trustee Sharon Champlin; Trustee Aanje Wilkerson

The Chairman declared the motion approved.

Item 3: Consider approval of financials and claims for April 2023, or take other necessary action. (Daniel Chepkauskas, Chairman)

Motion made by Trustee Traci McGee approve financials and claims, seconded by Trustee Mike Gragg.

AYE: Chair Daniel Chepkauskas; Secretary/Treasury Tracy Cole; Trustee Mike Gragg; Trustee Traci McGee; Trustee Mark Patel; Trustee Tim Wheeler

NAY: None

OTHER: Vice Chair Evelyn Hibbs; Trustee Sharon Champlin; Trustee Aanje Wilkerson

The Chairman declared the motion approved.

Item 4: Receive report from Oxford Productions Inc on the operation of the Visit Muskogee Tourism and Roxy Theater.

Avery Frix reported the Movie Hall of Fame held on May 6, 2023 was a success, hosting people from all over the U.S.

Item 6: Thank and recognize host of MTA Board Meeting, Home 2 Suites by Hilton, Mary Jane Perry, and Heather Cain.

No action taken.

There being no other business before the Board of Trustees, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.

Daniel Chepkauskas
Chair

ATTEST:

Tracy Cole
Secretary/Treasurer