

**Monroe-West Monroe
Convention and Visitors Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting**

**Minutes
September 19, 2016**

Date and Place: The regular meeting of the Convention and Visitors Bureau was held at the Convention and Visitors Bureau office on September 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. The Chairman, Nash Patel presided.

Roll Call: **Present**

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| Jerry Edmondson | Sammy Gordy |
| Lane Howell | Mickey Merritt |
| Sue Nicholson | Don O'Toole |
| Nash Patel | Ryan Roark |
| Norene Smith | |

Absent

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| Kevin Crosby (excused) | Omar Elgourani (excused) |
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Staff: Alana Cooper, President/CEO
 Sylvia Bullard, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
 Elmer Noah, Board Attorney

Agenda: It was moved by Ryan Roark and seconded by Don O'Toole to approve the September 19, 2016 board meeting agenda. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Guest Speaker: Brian Wickstorm, Athletic Director at ULM, made a request in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 to the board to help fund a Track/Soccer Field Project.

Minutes: It was moved by Lane Howell and seconded by Don O'Toole to approve the August 15, 2016 minutes as read. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Treasurer Report: The board members reviewed the itemized deposits and disbursements showing the following balance on hand as of August 31, 2016.

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| General Funds | \$8,271,623.91 |
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Report filed for audit.

Travel Plans: It was moved by Sammy Gordy and seconded by Lane Howell to approve the additional travel plans for September 2016 through January 2017. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Committee Reports:

Tourism Development Grant Committee – Ryan Roark reported that the committee met on September 19, 2016 at 3:30 to review payment requests from the following organizations:

1. The Bayou Kennel Club Dog Show requested an early payment of 75% for the Dog Show to be held May 2017 in Monroe.

It was moved by Ryan Roark and seconded by Don O’Toole to release 75% of \$5,000.00 to the Bayou Kennel Club in the amount of \$3,750.00. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

2. Final payment to the RiverMarket in the amount of \$2,500.00.

3. Final payment to ULM Beach Volleyball courts improvement in the amount of \$65,000.00

4. Payment to the Northeast Louisiana Soccer Association in the amount of \$70,000.00 for purchase of portable bleachers and goals.

It was moved by Ryan Roark and seconded by Lane Howell to approve all payment as presented. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

The board members discussed the proposal by Brian Wickstrom, of ULM Athletics Department for a Capital Improvement Grant for the Groseclose Track in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

It was moved by Sammy Gordy and seconded by Sue Nicholson to approve a tourism development grant to the ULM Athletics Department in the amount of \$650,000.00 for track replacement of the Track/Soccer Field project. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

President/CEO Report:

Alana Cooper reported that she has been nominated to serve on the LTPA board. She requested board approval to accept the position if elected.

It was moved by Don O’Toole and seconded by Sammy Gordy to approve the President/CEO to accept the position as a member of the board of LTPA if elected. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Adjournment: There being no further business, it was moved by Sammy Gordy and seconded by Ryan Roark to adjourn at 5:26 p.m. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Nash Patel, Chairman

Sammy Gordy, Secretary/Treasurer

