

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

**Minutes
May 18, 2015**

Date and Place: The regular meeting of the Convention and Visitors Bureau was held at the Convention and Visitors Bureau on May 18, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. The Chairwoman, Sammy Gordy, presided.

Roll Call: **Present**

Jerry Edmondson	Sammy Gordy
Lane Howell	Gretchen Kovac
Sue Nicholson	Nash Patel
Don O'Toole	Ryan Roark
Janet Rutledge	Norene Smith

Absent

Omar Elgourani (excused)

Staff: Alana Cooper, President/CEO
 Sylvia Bullard, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
 Elmer Noah, Board Attorney

Agenda: It was moved by Nash Patel and seconded by Ryan Roark to approve the April 20, 2015 board meeting agenda. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Minutes: It was moved by Lane Howell and seconded by Jerry Edmondson to approve the April 20, 2015 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 April 30, 2015.

General funds \$7,041,081.27

Report filed for audit.

Travel Plans: It was moved by Gretchen Kovac and seconded by Janet Rutledge to approve the additional travel plans for May through August 2015. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee – Sue Nicholson reported that the Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers for the June 2015 through May 2016 term in the April 2015 meeting to be voted in the May 2015 meeting.

Norene Smith- Chairwoman
Nash Patel – Vice Chairman
Lane Howell – Secretary/Treasurer

It was moved by Jerry Edmondson and seconded by Don O'Toole to approve the Nominating Committee recommendation for the June 2015 through May 2016 slate of Officers as presented. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Tourism Development Grant Committee – Norene Smith reported that the Grant Committee met on May 18, 2015 at 3:30 to review payment requests.

Monroe Garden Club requested final payment in the completion of the installation of the playground equipment at the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo in the amount of \$5,000.00.

It was moved by Norene Smith and seconded by Don O'Toole to approve the final payment to the Monroe Garden Club in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the playground equipment at the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

ULM University Park requested an extension for the due date of the completion of the Maintenance Building Project due to heavy rain this spring and the Dixie World Series to be held at the University Park in August.

It was moved by Norene Smith and seconded by Gretchen Kovac to approve an extension until December 31, 2015 for ULM University Park grant in the amount of \$80,000.00 for the Maintenance Building Project due to delay of heavy rain this spring and the Dixie World Series to be held at the park in August. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

President/CEO Report: Alana Cooper reported that she received correspondence from Elmer Noah requesting an increase in attorney's fees rate from \$125.00 per hour to \$150.00 per hour effective June 1, 2015.

It was moved by Sue Nicholson and seconded by Norene Smith to approve the request of the increase in the attorney's legal fees from \$125.00 per hour to \$150.00 per hour effective June 1, 2015. Motion carried by a vote of ten (10) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Alana Cooper reported that she would like to do a study for the feasibility of a Sport's Complex in the Monroe-West Monroe area.

It was moved by Nash Patel and seconded by Lane Howell for the President/CEO to move forward with the study of a feasibility of a Sport's Complex in the Monroe-West Monroe area. 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 Lane Howell and seconded by Ryan Roark to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. Motion carried by a vote of nine (9) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes.

Sammy Gordy, Chairwoman

Lane Howell, Secretary/Treasurer