

MINUTES
Thursday, March 11, 2021

APPROVED
05/03/2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners Management Conference met at the hour of 9:30 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioner Ron Peters, Commissioner Karen Keith and Commissioner Stan Sallee. Others present: Keri Fothergill, Vicki Adams and Michael Craddock, BOCC; Alex Mills, Engineering; Devin Egan and Jarrell Wade, Communication; Ronny Walker, Building Operations; Vince Trinidad, Parks; Michael Willis, Kenneth Yates and Aaron Wiedman, County Clerk; Kathy Burrows and Mitch Robinson, Human Resources; Terry Simonson, BOCC; LeiLani Armstrong, Early Settlement; Teresa Tosh, Inspections; Tamara Stanley, Assessor; Mike Neal, Ray Hoyt, Rue Ramsey, Justin McLaughlin, and Elizabeth Osborn, Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce; Kirby Crowe, PMg; Dan Pease, IT; Ken Busby, Route 66; Matney Ellis, Procurement

Commissioner Stan Sallee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and the following business was transacted:

II. OLD BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

III. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Tulsa Regional Chamber Update - Justin McLaughlin-Economic Development, Rue Ramsey-Workforce Study Overview, Ray Hoyt-Visit Tulsa, Elizabeth Osburn-Government Affairs

Justin McLaughlin introduced the new Senior Vice President Arthur Jackson. He will be moving the Economic Development Program forward. The main focus for the Chamber this year is "Road to Recovery" which focuses on three main topics: business recruitment; business retention and expansion; and dislocated workforce analysis. Economic development team has reached out to 90 leaders so far this year which included a mix of companies and consultants to make sure they are aware of what the Tulsa area has to offer. As a result, there are five site visits and six proposals so far. Rue Ramsey gave an update on the dislocated workforce analysis. A recovery committee was formed to look at what the needs of the region are going to be in order to recover quickly. The industries studied were manufacturing, food services, retail, and energy. Learning institutions and industries must focus on preparing people for tomorrow and are encouraged to hire locally. Elizabeth Osburn is tracking the potential for a federal transportation infrastructure package which will benefit the County. There is Senate Bill 900 which will allow a qualified investor to invest in a start-up or entrepreneurial company which will help to grow Oklahoma companies.

- B. Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) - Jeff Jaynes, Executive Director of Restore Hope

Jeff Jaynes is the CEO of Restore Hope. His organization has been involved with rental assistance programs for the last twenty-five years. Since May 1, 2020, Restore Hope has spent \$4 million for 1,600 households and 4,000 people across Tulsa County. They have partnered with Tulsa County and the City of Tulsa to provide a nationally proven portal, their local expertise and the use of intense quality control in order to meet Restore Hope standards and meet federal compliance with the dissemination of the new federal stimulus package, American Rescue Plan Act. The outreach includes the entire county. There will be help with rent, gas, electric, water and propane if needed. The application process is the same when applying for City of Tulsa funds or Tulsa County funds.

C. Golf Trail Pilot Project - Ken Busby

The Golf Trail Project as proposed will provide an opportunity to showcase Tulsa County as a golf destination. The proposal will include eight golf courses within Tulsa County and display Route 66. The initiative will focus on marketing and promotion of the golf courses, signage and enhancements creating appeal for locals and visitors. The plan is to include the 53 golf courses and several communities along Route 66 from Miami to Elk City.

D. HQ Building Security - Michael Willis

Security Committee meetings have been set for the third Thursday of each month.

E. HR Tulsa County Property Insurance - Kathy Burrows

A partnership has been formed between the County Clerk's Office and Human Resources to collaborate efforts to share the workload pertaining to Tulsa County's Property Insurance. The County Clerk's office will work on renewals and contracting, and Human Resources will assist with the renewals and will continue to do building inspections, building sprinklers and alarm systems, and accident investigations.

F. Parks Department Uniform Discussion - Commissioner Sallee

Several Park employees have come to Commissioner Sallee asking him to consider providing uniforms for Park employees which will distinguish them as Tulsa County Park Employees to the general public. Long and short sleeve shirts that are in line with Tulsa County branding are being considered. There are 91 park employees that will benefit from having the uniforms. Human Resources is working on options of how to can be structure the collection for the uniforms.

G. Legislative Update - Discussions and Possible Action Concerning a Protest Letter pertaining to HB 2504 from BOCC - Terry Simonson

Terry Simonson shared there have been 2,936 house bills filed, but there have only been hearings for 523. On the Senate side there were 1,064 senate bills filed and only 554 were heard. Eight bills that passed affect Tulsa County, three of them directly. A bill that allows the Court Clerk to stop calling on police officers for jury duty was passed. Time and money will be saved as the officers are never selected. A bill that opens up continuing educational opportunities for employees with less constrictive time and location allowances and a bill that allows an employee recognition event to be paid for with budgeted money.

H. Mayor's Pay Equity Pledge - Commissioner Karen Keith

Commissioner Keith asked for Kathy Burrows, Human Resource Director to review the Mayor's Pay Equity Pledge. Her report is that she is confident Tulsa County is compliance with the Equity of Pay Act.

I. Tulsa County Highway-Snow & Ice Removal Policy - Alex Mills

In light of the recent snowstorm, there were many questions with no written answers. Alex Mills, Engineering Department Director, created a departmental policy including snow plowing guidelines for future snow events.

J. Ray Jordan Renovation - Commissioner Sallee

There was discussion about the Tulsa County Engineering Department becoming involved with Tulsa County renovation projects contributing their expertise to those improvements. The Engineering Department is willing to take on that role. The Purchasing Director shared there has been discussion of hiring a Project Manager under his department to provide internal support to future projects.

K. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Terry Simonson

The American Rescue Plan Act passed the House of Representatives and has been approved and signed by Congress. The projection is for Tulsa County to have access to \$126,000,000 that will be disseminated throughout the community. Two major differences exist between CARES money and ARPA money. The money will be given to the county at two different times, the first half now and the second half a year after the first half is received. The second difference is requests will be submitted by Tulsa County then money for those submitted requests will be sent from the federal government once approved. It can be used for small business, non-profit, work displacement, tourism, loss of revenue and capital improvements on infrastructure. It will apply to just about anything COVID-19 related.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

In accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Title 25 O.S. § 311.A.10, new business is defined as any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda.

There was no new business.

V. ADJOURN

Motion made by Ron Peters, seconded by Karen Keith, to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call, Yes - Ron Peters, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Stan Sallee, Chairman

ATTEST:


Michael Willis, Tulsa County Clerk

