

MINUTES
Thursday, December 9, 2021

APPROVED
1/10/2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners Management Conference met at 9:30 with the following present: Commissioner Stan Sallee, Karen Keith and Ron Peters. Others present: Chief Deputies Mike Craddock, Keri Fothergill and Vicki Adams; Michael Willis, Aaron Wiedman - County Clerk; Ronny Walker - Building Ops.; Deniece Arterburn - Human Resources; Gwen Freeman - Election Board; Dan Pease, Alan Vanderburg - IT; Teresa Tosh, Kerrick Edenborough - Inspections and Zoning; Chad Tanner, Jonathan Strahouse - Green Country Fire & Safety; Maggie Donahue, Mark Liotta - Assessor's; Matney Ellis - Procurement; Vince Trinidad - Parks; Sherri Carrier - Court Services; Alex Mills - Engineering; Ray Hoyt, Arthur Jackson, Elizabeth Osburn - Tulsa Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Sallee called the meeting to order at 9:30 and the following business was conducted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

None

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Chamber of Commerce - Justin McLaughlin - Tulsa Chamber

Arthur Jackson gave an update about economic development which is breaking records this year. Business attraction, business retention and expansion and work force development and talent strategies are three focus areas of the Tulsa Chamber. In the area of business attractions there have been a total of 85 new projects for the year 2021. For comparison, in 2019 there were 40 projects and 2020 there were 35 projects. Projects numbers have grown significantly due to an increased concerted effort to be more aggressive in lead generation. They have helped bring in a total of 4,125 new jobs. They have met with 101 local companies and assisted 75 of them to fulfill needs they had in order to retain and/or expand the companies. The work force area hosts HR Forums giving local companies the opportunity to convene with regional HR Executives to learn best practices ideas from each other and talk about barriers to recruitment. Ray Hoyt reports there were 11,856 BMX Event attendees. The total 5 day attendance was 59,000 and 19,296 rooms. Through their social media program there were 716,895 viewers with a total reach of 4,259,591. There were 49 states and 15 countries represented. May 2022 is predicted to be a big month with both the PGA and Ironman happening on. In March we will be hosting the Big 12 Wrestling tournament. The Shootout in December has over 300 new additional entries over what they have ever had.

B. Discussion of OneVoice agenda - Elizabeth Osburn

Elizabeth Osburn shared the OneVoice Regional Legislative 2022 Agenda. The Agenda has fifteen federal and fifteen state items. At the state level, one of the issues is medical marijuana compliance. It is predicted that within the next year, the medical marijuana industry is set to take over the state's oil and gas industries, thus the need for getting compliance under control. OMMA is having a difficult time hiring enough enforcement officers to handle enforcement of compliance in the industry, which will help ensure it is being run legally. On the federal level, there is the Safe Banking Act which will help get some of the medical marijuana cash into the electronic banking system for the safety of companies and citizens. There is also a bill called the Revitalize Downtown Act which will give some incentives to repurpose empty downtown office space. The Tulsa Chamber is submitting the The OneVoice agenda for the Commissioners' consideration and acceptance.

C. The Spring - Leslie Clingenpeel - Executive of Domestic Violence Shelter in Sand Springs

This item was stricken from the agenda.

- D. Happy Hands Education Center - Jan Pride - Executive Director of child care and education for deaf children

This item was stricken from the agenda.

- E. General Fund Budget Increase Request - 5% Salary Increase - Alex Mills

Alex Mills is requesting a 5% ongoing pay increase for his highway crew to be a budgeted item moving forward. The request will need to go before the budget board.

- F. General Fund Budget Increase Request - Project Manager Positions - Alex Mills

Alex Mills is requesting the consideration of and discussion about a position to be created outside of the Engineering Department. It is needed for general project oversight and project/program management. The request will be placed on the Budget Board agenda.

- G. Discuss Policy and Procedures for Medical Marijuana - Teresa Tosh - Inspections and Zoning

Teresa Tosh shared that Tulsa County is leading the other counties in the state in being proactive against the Medical Marijuana Industry compliance issues. Chad Tanner and Johnathan Strahorn have helped Teresa come up with strategies to combat the non-compliance issues and the other counties in the state are waiting to see how well the ideas work before they follow suit in the same kind of battles they are having in their counties. Chad Tanner is Deputy Chief of the Glenpool Fire Department and owns Green Country Fire and Safety. He has been helping Teresa with the county grower inspections. He brought with him his business partner, Johnathan Strahorn who is currently the Fire Marshal for the El Reno Fire Department and is the plans examiner for the state fire marshal's office. The OMMA has put the total burden of medical marijuana compliance on the local jurisdictions. The first thing that needs to happen towards the compliance issues is to review the growing facility plans and have them right. From that point, everything else to follow will be right. Once the final inspection is finished and the inspectors leave, then anything goes because the growers know the inspectors will never be back again. Upon inspection, an immediate problem which is easy to spot is the identification of an installed Co2 enrichment system on the growing facility. This causes plants to grow bigger, stronger and faster, which means faster shipping, more money and faster money. The system also creates a problem of violating fire and building codes which requires the systems to be an engineered system, which means that all the parts of the system must be submitted for review to see if the system is compliant. This has then become a huge business for the Co2 companies providing record amounts of Co2. The growers aren't being caught because the inspections are not being done by OMMA. Mr. Tanner proposes that Tulsa County do the inspections and charge the same amount as the state charges for an inspection of every marijuana every year. This will help keep the totally non-compliant industry somewhat compliant. It will also help them find illegal grow facilities. Another way to identify the illegal growers is by using boiler makers as inspectors. They will inspect the Co2 companies' tanks. When Mr. Tanner checks the Company's records of where their tanks are delivered and sees the deliveries are not associated with a convenience store he knows they are marijuana growers and he goes after that address.

- H. BOCC Appointees - County Commissioners

The Commissioner who is Chair of Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority should be the Commissioner to serve on Tulsa Regional Tourism with Ray Hoyt.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

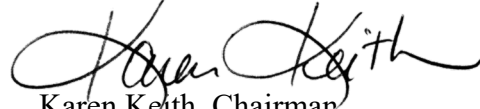
In accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Title 25 O.S. § 311.A.10, new business is defined as any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda.

There is no new business

V. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Commissioner Karen Keith and seconded by Commissioner Ron Peters to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call, Yes - Karen Keith, Ron Pters and Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Karen Keith, Chairman

ATTEST:



Michael Willis, Tulsa County Clerk

