

MINUTES OF THE HATTIESBURG TOURISM COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS & MANAGEMENT

Minutes of a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board Members of the Hattiesburg Tourism Commission of the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, held at the Lake Terrace Convention Center on:

June 28th, 2017

Be it remembered that on the 28th day of June, the Board Members of the Hattiesburg Tourism Commission met in a regular meeting at the Lake Terrace Convention Center, being a place fixed by law for such meetings. The meeting was called to order at **11:39 p.m.** by Frank James, Chairman of the Hattiesburg Tourism Commission. The following Members of the Board were found to be present:

PRESENT

Shelia Varnado
Frank James
Marshall Bell
Anthony Harris

ABSENT

Bonnie Warren

ALSO PRESENT

Bud Kirkpatrick, HCC Liaison
Richard Taylor, Management
Jessica Cathey, Administration
Marlo Dorsey, Marketing

Minutes from Previous Board Meetings

Upon motion made by Shelia Varnado, duly seconded by Marshall Bell and after a full discussion, there was a unanimous favorable vote of the Board to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Financial Report

Rick Taylor presented the FYE 2017 lodging tax receipts and presented the financial reports, including the current Claims Docket and budget. He reported that the year-to-date lodging tax revenue was running 10% above the same period of the prior year. Upon motion made by Shelia Varnado and duly seconded by Anthony Harris, and after a full discussion, there was a unanimous favorable vote to approve the Claims Docket and Financial Reports as given.

Old Business

Marlo Dorsey presented the VisitHattiesburg™ website and Hattiesburg Video. She explained the features of the new website and added that the website will eventually be able to all businesses to update their own listings.

New Business

Upon motion by Sheila Varnado to consider going into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing personnel matters, Anthony Harris seconded to this motion. After general discussion, the Commissioners voted unanimously to go into Executive Session.

Sheila Varnado then made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing personnel matters. Anthony Harris provided a second to this motion. After which, the Commissioners voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for this purpose. The Chair requested that Rick Taylor remain with the Commission during the Executive Session.

Upon motion by Sheila Varnado to exit the Executive Session, Marshall Bell seconded the motion. At which, the Commissioners present voted unanimously to leave the Executive Session.

Sheila Varnado made a motion to authorize the Chair of the Commission to execute the Searchwide Retained Fee Agreement contingent upon a satisfactory conversation between the Commission's Legal Counsel and Searchwide to clarify certain obligations presented in the Agreement. Anthony Harris seconded this motion, upon which the Commissioners present voted unanimously to approve.

Hattiesburg Tourism Commission

Frank James, Board Chair

Attested:

Richard Taylor, Executive Director