

CITY OF GROVE
CONVENTION AND TOURISM BUREAU
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2017

Jim Corbridge, Chairman, called the meeting to order. Members present were Amelia Chamberlain, Brad Wisdom, John Wells, and Hitesh Patel. Also in attendance were Brent Malone, Executive Director, Bill Keefer, City Manager and Debbie Bottoroff, Assistant City Manager.

There were no Public Comments.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to the approval of minutes of the January 26, 2017 Regular Meeting. Chamberlain made a motion seconded by Wisdom to approve the minutes as presented. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to the monthly financial reports. Keefer advised members the Hotel Tax revenue had a substantial increase from last year. Wells made a motion seconded by Chamberlain to approve the monthly Financial Report. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to awarding the 2017 Sponsorships. Corbridge referred to the memo provided to the members regarding Leonard Miller's request to withdraw the Sponsorship Application for Thunder on Wolf Creek, therefore consideration of only two applications were necessary. Wells made a motion seconded by Wisdom to award the average amount recommended by the members as noted on the scoring sheets:

Grand Lake Association – Boat Show	\$ 960.00
GLOC Shootout – High Performance Boat Race	\$4,800.00

Upon a suggestion from Chamberlain and further discussion Wells amended his motion, and Wisdom amended his second to round up the average amount recommended by the members as follows:

Grand Lake Association – Boat Show	\$1,000.00
GLOC Shootout – High Performance Boat Race	\$5,000.00

5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Miami for the NE Oklahoma Travel Information Center. Keefer advised members that staff had questions regarding the memorandum, and additional information was needed to make an informed decision. Malone advised he will talk with Amanda Davis, the Miami CVB Director, and get additional information. In addition, he suggested having Amanda Davis attend the next CTB meeting to answer questions for the members and staff. Wisdom made a motion seconded by Wells to table this item. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to the Host Agreement for the Bassmaster Open Series Tournament Event scheduled for October 5-7, 2017. Keefer advised members Malone has been diligently working on finalizing this agreement. He negotiated the Host Fee from

\$30,000 down to \$12,000. The City of Grove will fund the Host Fee, provide the Civic Center and Wolf Creek for their use; the Cherokee Casino Grove will cater the meal. Keefer requested the CTB member's consider sponsoring the 49 motel room nights requested by BASS. After much discussion, Chamberlain made a motion seconded by Wisdom to approve an amount not to exceed \$6,000 to cover the cost of the 49 motel room nights. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to the Bid Proposal for the 2018 Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament Event. Keefer advised members a \$75,000 Host Fee was requested for this event. Malone advised members that during conversation with his Bassmaster contact, he advised that Grove could not contribute that amount of a Host Fee, his contact encouraged him to go ahead and submit a bid. Keefer advised that Malone has received the following commitments to include in the Bid Proposal:

Host Fee:	Cherokee Casino Grove	\$20,000
	City of Grove	\$25,000

the Chamber members will provide drinks and snacks during their registration at the Civic Center, and Wolf Creek Park will be venue for their event.

Keefer advised Bassmaster is requesting 75 hotel room nights for their staff. He requested members to consider sponsoring the room nights. After much discussion, Wells made a motion second by Wisdom to sponsor up to 75 room nights, but only for room nights in hotels located within Grove city limits. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried.

Corbridge opened the floor for discussion in respect to Implementation of a Membership Program to the Convention Tourism Bureau (CTB). Keefer advised members per the Hotel-Motel Tax Ordinance, only lodging facilities within the City of Grove are eligible to collect the lodging tax. There was previously an interest from a local resort that is located outside the city limits to be included in the CTB, and a willingness to collect a 5% fee on lodging and issue payment of the fee to the City of Grove.

Malone advised members he has visited with several lodging facilities located out of the city limits regarding the Membership Program, and has received positive feedback and interest. The Membership Program would allow Grove to increase the current available room count resulting in more events coming to the community. Malone requested members to move forward on this program. Members were in agreement and directed staff to create a policy and contract for future review.

Staff Reports

Malone reported the Tackle and Hunting Expo that was held at the Civic Center the past weekend was the biggest show ever held in Grove. The ticket sales showed 6,375 adults were in attendance, this number does not include anyone under the age of 18. The total estimated attendance was 8,000+ The event holder was pleased with the turn out, and stated it exceeded his expectations. Patel, owner of the Stonebrook Inn provided the Information Sheet for overnight guests that were here for the Tackle and Hunting Expo; over the 3-day event there were 69 room nights with guests from Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas. Malone advised this is good information and he encouraged the other motels to submit the Information Sheets for this event.

Malone advised members GRDA was considering regulating fishing tournaments on Grand Lake based on the temperature of the water. “This type of action will have a negative impact on Grove and Grand Lake’s Economic Development”. Malone advised members a meeting will be held at GRDA Eco Center in Langley on March 8 to discuss this matter.

Board Reports

Chamberlain announced that Har-Ber Village will host the Traveling Smithsonian Exhibit March 24-May 8.

Adjourn

Chamberlain made a motion seconded by Wells to adjourn. 5 AYE, 0 NAY, Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.