

**MINUTES
MUSEUM OF THE GREAT PLAINS (MGP) AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, April 19, 2023
5:30 P.M.**

Carey Monroe, Chair, called the **Regular Meeting** of the Museum of the Great Plains Authority (MGPA) to order at 5:32 p.m., April 19, 2023, in the Louise D. McMahon (LDM) Hall. Notice of the meeting and the agenda are posted at City Hall and the entrance to the Museum of the Great Plains, as required by Law.

1. Call to Order with Roll Call.

PRESENT: Carey Monroe, Janice Bell, Yuri Schendel, JoAnne Gaasbeck, Linda Chapman, Sharon Cheatwood, Ellouise Love, Robert Morales, Ryan Studebaker, Eva Williams, and Victoria Zelbst. **ABSENT:** Marie Pihulic and Joe Williams. **ALSO PRESENT:** MGP staff Bart McClenny, Stacy Reyna, Mary Owensby, Jim Whiteley, Trevor Williams, Margaret Tatum, Taylor Larson, Arvest Wealth Management Sean Garibay and Seth Covey.

2. New Business.

- a. Consider approving quarterly investments update; presentation by Sean Garibay, Arvest Wealth Management.**

MOTION by Bell to approve the quarterly investments. **SECONDED** by Chapman. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE:** Monroe, Bell, Schendel, Gassbeck, Chapman, Cheatwood, Love, Morales, Studebaker, E. Williams, and Zelbst. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (11-0).**

- b. Consider approving March 15 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

MOTION by Morales to approve the March 15 Regular Meeting Minutes. **SECONDED** by Studebaker. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE:** Monroe, Bell, Schendel, Gassbeck, Chapman, Love, Morales, Studebaker, E. Williams, and Zelbst **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Cheatwood. **MOTION CARRIED (10-0).**

- c. Visit Trading Post.**

- 1. Consider approving payment to Historical Applications, Inc in the amount of \$15,154.00 (Invoice #16.)**

MOTION by Gaasbeck to approve payment to Historical Applications, Inc in the amount of \$15,154.00 (Invoice #16.) **SECONDED** by Schendel. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE:** Monroe, Bell, Schendel, Gassbeck, Chapman, Cheatwood, Love, Morales, Studebaker, E. Williams, and Zelbst. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (11-0).**

d. Consider approving exhibit refurbishments by Science Museum Minnesota, \$25,200 (Reynolds Fund.)

MOTION by Studebaker to table the exhibit refurbishments to get more quotes. **SECONDED** by Zelbst. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE:** Bell, Gassbeck, Cheatwood, Love, and E. Williams. **NAY:** Monroe, Schendel, Chapman, Morales, Studebaker, and Zelbst. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (5-6).**

1. Discuss status of previously authorized work.

e. Discuss rescheduling May 17 MGPA regular meeting.

McClenny stated that the American Alliance Museum conference is the 19th through the 22nd, driving on the 18th. Get back on the 23rd. Would like to reschedule the meeting.

MOTION by Gassbeck to reschedule May 17 MGPA regular meeting to May 31. **SECONDED** by E. Eilliams. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE:** Monroe, Bell, Schendel, Gassbeck, Chapman, Cheatwood, Love, Morales, Studebaker, E. Williams, and Zelbst. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (11-0).**

3. Reports – no action needed

a. Discuss April 25 City Council meeting; allocation of surplus CIP Funds.

McClenny stated that there is either 5 or 6 million dollars in unallocated CIP Funds. Wanted the board to be aware of it so that board members can advocate for the museum to attend the city council meeting scheduled for April 25th. Chapman stated that you can view the agenda on the city website. Stated that the communication she has received is to use that money for road repairs. McClenny stated we were reaccredited by AAM and within the 3 years they wanted a report on fixing certain problems and one of them was air conditioning issues at the museum and roof leaks. Chapman recommended reporting it through iHelp on the city's website.

b. Discuss American Association of Museums (AAM) Annual Conference.

McClenny stated that they will be gone from the 18th through the 23rd. With Kevin's departure, Taylor Larson will go in his place. They will be driving the museum's van.

c. Discuss staff transport of bison exhibit to Kidzibits (St Paul).

McClenny stated that he and Ian Swart would transport the bison in his van. Will be cheaper to take it there than to crate it and ship it. Have not settled on a date.

d. Discuss status of office repairs.

McClenny that we will be able to move back in tomorrow. The wall, carpet, and ceiling tiles have been replaced, with pipe insulation everywhere. Monroe asked if we had to replace any furniture. McClenny stated that some things were damaged but less than our deductible.

e. Discuss Recap members-night only night, March 31 (OMN preview).

Trevor Williams stated that the attendance was similar to the last event. 13 families showed up with about 40 to 50 people showing up. Cheatwood recommended we create a Facebook event for the next one.

f. Discuss termination of Assistant Director.

McClenny stated that Kevin was good in a lot of ways but had significant problems from the very beginning. Kevin got really good at hiding a lot of bad behaviors from him and had a lot of his employees really scared to say anything. After Kevin left, there were a lot of outside people that it was about time, one stating how he treated women was terrible. There were employees that were going to leave. Held a meeting with the full-time staff, with the exception of 2 or 3, staff had had a run in with Kevin and didn't believe he should be here. McClenny stated that it made the decision fairly easy, regrets that Kevin is gone in some ways because he was very capable and had integrated him very deeply into the museum and has now double McClenny's workload for him for him to leave and dreads looking for another assistant director because it took a year and a half to get Kevin trained. Monroe stated that Kevin did hide it well, never had any instances with him being forcefully or problematic but felt on edge because she had heard things through mutual acquaintances about personal stuff and was not surprised when she heard from McClenny. McClenny stated that as far as exposure, a number of his employees could have quit and sued or lodge a significant complaint. McClenny stated that typically we will go through the Oklahoma Museums Association website to advertise the job and will try to find someone on the state level that are interested.

Would be great if they had a degree in Social Sciences, History would be great, Public Administration works well, want some management experience. Salary would be top end at \$50,000. Clarified it is not a city position. Trevor Williams clarified that with Kevin gone we will still communicate with the Disability Council in Oklahoma City and not stopping NeuroNight. Erica Barnes confirmed the museum has a link on Travel.OK.

4. Comments, Audience Participation.

McClenny stated that we recently received all the money from the McMahon Foundation, \$500,000 without doing 2 installments. McClenny stated that we deposited the funds but had spent approximately \$273,000 for expenses related to the trading post, so now that money is being moved from the Restricted account into our General checking where it originally came from.

5. Adjournment – 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Reyna, Secretary

For Museum of the Great Plains Authority (MGPA)

Carey Monroe, Chair MGPA Board