



International Festival 2025

A project of the City of Lawton and the McMahon Memorial Auditorium



Minutes

Special Meeting

International Festival Committee

April 1, 2025—4:30PM

Carnegie Library Town Hall

Dory Thomas
(Chair)

Dinah Lazarte
(Vice Chair)

Nancy Alandzes
Rosaling Asetamy
Alicia Brierton
Reggie Brown
Molly Buckley
Fano Canton
Evelynn Fullerton
Sonia Hastings
Angel Howell
Mike Howell
Mylene McManus
Winnie Morita
Ben Nededog
Pat Reynolds
Kathy Rogers
Jerson Romero
Max Sasseen
Kathy Sauders
Page Smith

Jason Poudrier
Arts & Humanities
Administrator

Andrea Morman
Arts & Humanities
Deputy Administrator

Michell Rosario
Arts & Humanities
Community Events
& Outreach Coordinator

Haley Moore
Arts & Humanities
Digital Media Specialist

Reagan Phillips
Arts & Humanities
Administrative Assistant

Terry Gresham
Arts and Humanities
Maintenance Tech

Nicholas Sasseen
Arts & Humanities
Technical Coordinator

Call Meeting to Order: 4:31pm

1. Action: Roll Call

PRESENT: Thomas, Lazarte, Brierton, Brown, Buckley, Nededog, Reynolds, Rogers, Jerson Romero, Myrna Romero, Welborn

ABSENT: Alandzes, Asetamy, Canton, Fullerton, Hastings, Angel Howell, Mike Howell, McManus, Morita, Rudd, Sasseen, Sauders, Smith

STAFF: Poudrier, Morman, Phillips

Verify positing of meeting:

2. Action: Verification of posting time, place, and date.

Consent Agenda: The following items are considered to be routine by the International Festival Committee and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

3. Approval of past meeting minutes from March 11, 2025.

4. Approval of financials from March 2025.

Motion by Nededog to approve the meeting minutes from March 11, 2025 and the financial report from March 2025. Second by Rogers.

Lazarte, Brierton, Brown, Buckley, Nededog, Rogers, Jerson Romero, Myrna Romero, and Welborn voted yes. Motion Carried

Chair Report

5. Thomas and Morman reported on the status of the Apache Casino Hotel contract for the International Festival Fiesta.

Vice Chair's Report:

6. No report.

Committee Reports:

7. International Festival Fiesta

Brierton reported on how Loteria is played. Thomas asked if any members would be able to donate items for the silent auction, the door prize, and the Loteria prizes, discussion ensued. The committee discussed who is needed for the registration table, to decorate beforehand, who will be selling Loteria cards and the 50/50 tickets.

8. Vendors

Phillips reported that she has received a few vendors already for the 46th annual International Festival.

9. Sponsorships/Brochures

Poudrier reported that he is reaching out to past sponsors and that his office is working on reaching out to new sponsors as well. He asked that if anyone knows of any potential sponsors, he will be pushing out sponsor levels soon on social media.

10. Marketing / Publicity / Social Media

Poudrier reported on the marketing and publicity avenues he is pursuing. He reported that in recent training he learned that radio and television advertisements are not as effective as social media ads. Poudrier reported on the Great Plains Country brochure that the MAA has paid for advertising.

11. Parade of Nations / Opening Ceremony

Morman reported that she will follow up with Charlotte Kealii Thompson to see if she is interested in coordinating the Parade of Nations again this year. Poudrier reported that his office has reached out to the Oklahoma City field office for the US Citizenship and Immigration Services and they and Judge Erwin are on track to perform the Naturalization ceremony.

Entertainment

There was discussion on the location for the Interactive/Children's Area and about possible changes to the south stage tent.

Poudrier reported that his office is finalizing the performers contracts and that the Volunteer Performer application is ready to start to go live.

12. Volunteers - none

13. Decorations - none

14. Beer Booth

There was discussion if the beer booth should get the slushie machine again. The committee decided that the slushies were a great idea because it can get hot and they sold very well last year.

15. Drink Booths - none

16. Information Booth - none

Staff Reports:

17. A&H Administrator: City of Lawton Collaboration and Assistance

Poudrier reported that he will make sure to put in the event permit the facilities rental for the Patriot Pavillion. He also let the committee know that if they need anything printed for the festival, his office can be of help.

Business Items:

18. **Review quote for sound technician for 2025 International Festival and take action as necessary.**

Motion by Brierton to accept the sound quote from Sasseen Production Group. Second by Jerson Romero.

Lazarte, Brierton, Brown, Buckley, Nededog, Rogers, Jerson Romero, Myrna Romero, and Welborn voted yes. Motion Carried.

19. **Review quote for Security Company for 2025 International Festival and take action as necessary.**

Motion by Brierton to accept the security quote from Triangle Security. Second by Jerson Romero.

Lazarte, Brierton, Brown, Buckley, Nededog, Rogers, Jerson Romero, Myrna Romero, and Welborn voted yes. Motion Carried.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Announcements: none

Adjournment: 5:34pm