



**MINUTES
LAWTON YOUTH SPORTS TRUST AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
LAWTON CITY HALL- 212 SW 9th STREET, LAWTON, OKLAHOMA
3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023– 2:00PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brian Henry, Hossein Moini, Carey Monroe, Mike Cowan, Steve Coleman, Randy Warren, Kelly Harris

ABSENT: Krista Ratliff, Albert Johnson Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Tammy Branstetter, City Clerk's Office; Timothy Wilson, City Attorney's Office; Greg Gibson, City Attorney's Office; Kim McConnell, Lawton Constitution

II. REPORTS:

A. Eastern Sports Management- Receive a report from Eastern Sports Management.

Chairman Henry said Matt Elliott, ESM, is sick and unable to attend the meeting.

Chairman Henry said winter sports will be closing on December 17th, whereas they used to close in November. He noted there are currently 86 teams registered for youth basketball, and they anticipate having 100 teams by the close of registration. There were 85 youth basketball teams last year. Chairman Henry said there are currently 19 teams enrolled for youth futsal, and they anticipate having 21 teams total by the close of registration. There were 17 youth futsal teams last year. He noted that overall participation in youth sports is trending upward. Chairman Henry said the number of kids enrolled for winter sports this year is expected to be just under 1,300. This is a 22% increase from last year.

Chairman Henry said ESM will be offering several camps and clinics, to include a basketball camp and a football camp offered during spring break. They will be offering a "Little Ballers/Hoopers" class for entry level kids. This class will meet one night a week for 8 weeks.

Chairman Henry said ESM plans to offer baseball and youth softball tournaments. There will be a tournament in March, and one in late May. One of these tournaments will be done in house, and the other would be a softball benefit tournament done in partnership with USA Softball in May 2024 to raise awareness of and funding for cystic fibrosis. Chairman Henry said ESM will also be offering "Buddies at the Ballfield" - a baseball tournament for special needs kids that will

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be held at the Miracle League Field in Elmer Thomas Park. Elliot, ESM, has been working with the Lawton Special Needs Sports Activities Committee in planning for this event.

Chairman Henry said ESM will also be offering a 7-on-7 flag football tournament and a cheer camp in spring 2024.

Chairman Henry noted that Elliot has been working with Cameron University Athletics to see if they'd be willing to help coach camps and clinics on their off season(s). He noted that Elliot wishes to continue offering basketball classes through the summer.

Chairman Henry said ESM is also looking into putting on a Juneteenth basketball tournament.

From a marketing standpoint, Chairman Henry said ESM has created yard signs for citizens to display, and they have increased their presence on social media by joining various community groups on Facebook and sharing advertisements for Play Lawton. Chairman Henry said Lawton Public Schools has agreed to advertised for Play Lawton on the LPS website under the "Community" section.

Moini asked Monroe if she's noticed increased presence from ESM on Facebook lately.

Monroe said she does believe ESM is making an effort to increase their activity on social media. She asked if they might need help finding volunteers to coach.

Chairman Henry said volunteer coaches are rarely ever turned away – they're always needed.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Consider approving the minutes of the November 9, 2023 meeting.

Motion by Moini, **Second** by Warren, to approve the November 9, 2023 meeting minutes. **AYE:** Henry, Moini, Monroe, Cowan, Warren, Coleman, Harris. **NAY:** None. ***Motion Passed.***

Chairman Henry said the Authority will address the executive session item before addressing agenda items 3B and 3C.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

A. Pursuant to Section 307B.3, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session for the purpose of discussing the possible purchase of real property for use by the Lawton Youth Sports Authority, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Motion by Warren, **Second** by Monroe, to enter executive session. **AYE:** Monroe, Cowan, Warren, Coleman, Harris, Henry, Moini. **NAY:** None. ***Motion Passed.***

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The Authority convened in executive session at 2:17 P.M.

Monroe left the meeting at 2:46 P.M.

The Authority reconvened in regular, open session at 3:19 P.M, and roll call reflected a quorum present.

Timothy Wilson, Acting City Attorney, read the item title as follows:

“Pursuant to Section 307B.3, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session for the purpose of discussing the possible purchase of real property for use by the Lawton Youth Sports Authority, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.”

Motion by Harris, Second by Warren, to authorize the Chairman to negotiate with one or more perspective sellers for the purchase of real property for the planned Sports Complex. **AYE:** Warren, Coleman, Harris, Henry, Moini, Cowan. **NAY:** None. ***Motion Passed.***

3B. Consider approving an Amended Fiscal Year 2023-2024 LYSA Budget and authorize the Chairman to present the Amended Budget to the Lawton City Council for funding support approval. – STRICKEN

3C. Consider approving an Amended Limited Support Agreement between Lawton Youth Sports Trust Authority and the City of Lawton for FY 23-24 and take action as necessary. – STRICKEN

Motion by Warren, Second by Harris, to strike agenda items 3B and 3C. **AYE:** Warren, Coleman, Harris, Henry, Moini, Cowan. **NAY:** None. ***Motion Passed.***

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Harris, Second by Warren, to adjourn the December 11, 2023, special meeting. **AYE:** Warren, Coleman, Harris, Henry, Moini, Cowan. **NAY:** None. ***Motion Passed.***

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:23P.M.

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