

**MINUTES**  
**LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY**  
**NEW CITY HALL AUDITORIUM**  
**212 SW 9<sup>th</sup> STREET**  
**JANUARY 9, 2013**

Jay Burk, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the New City Hall Auditorium. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Burk, Jay; Dismuke, Bob; Godlove, Jane; Hankins, Mary Ann; Harbison, Jean; Hushbeck, Tim; Safi, Anika; Smith, Marilyn; Tennis, Michael.

**ABSENT:** Carter, Carol; Smith, Addie.

**OTHER PRESENT:** Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk's Office.

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**BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Reports

A. Receive report from 4-D Landscaping

Burk stated Elkouri is unavailable today so there will be no report.

B. Receive report from Kim Shahan, Parks and Recreation Director

Burk stated Shahan is doing interviews at this time and will be here later.

C. Treasurer Report

Burk stated we don't have a treasurer's report this month because Ezell has been out.

D. LETA YA Report

Burk stated due to illness their meeting was cancelled today.

Smith asked how much money did they receive from the banquet.

Burk stated I believe it was \$3500. They will have about \$5000 in their account. The banquet hasn't been totaled but I believe LETA's cost will be \$3000.

2. New Business

A. Election of Chair.

**Motion** by Tennis, **Second** by Smith, to approve Jay Burk as the Chairman. **Aye:** Dismuke; Godlove; Hankins; Harbison; Hushbeck; Safi; Smith; Tennis. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Burk. **Motion Carried.**

B. Election of Vice-Chair.

**Motion** by Smith, **Second** by Safi, to approve Michael Tennis as the Vice-Chair. **Aye:** Godlove; Hankins; Harbison; Hushbeck; Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke. **Nay:** Tennis. **Motion Carried.**

C. Election of Treasurer.

**Motion** by Smith, **Second** by Hankins, to approve Jane Godlove as the Treasurer. **Aye:** Hankins; Harbison; Hushbeck; Safi; Smith; Tennis; Burk; Dismuke. **Nay:** **Abstain:** Godlove. **Motion Carried.**

D. Clean up of the East Side Flea Market and take action if necessary.

Burk stated a year ago we talked about working with Neighborhood Services to clean up this property. It is Indian land and is leased to someone. I did speak with them about us coming onto the property and cleaning it up.

Hushbeck asked do we know who has the lease.

Burk stated yes but I don't remember the name.

Hushbeck asked since the structures are theirs do they have to agree.

Burk stated they have agreed but they don't have the money to remove them. Griffith has a bid of \$5300 and the City will waive the dumping fees for LETA. This isn't something we have to do instantly. As the eastside Councilman I'm constantly getting calls in regards to cleaning it up. Since it is Trust land the City cannot make them clean it up.

Dismuke stated the Indians have money so I believe we need to approach them on doing something.

Burk stated we have talked with them a couple of times and Shoemate has been working with me to find a way to get it cleaned up. He believes they may put a business there and it would be cleaned up during construction. It is an eye sore and we have approached the tribe and they won't help.

Dismuke asked would it do any good to send a formal request from LETA.

Burk stated Council helped them get a grant for the hospital to remove the asbestos. They told us they would secure it with fencing and take the asbestos out to lease the building for

storage. Today it is still an eye sore. I was happy they agreed to allow us clean up east Gore. I don't mind sending a letter but it is almost as if it goes into file 13.

Smith asked what if we offered to split the cost with them.

Burk stated with every request we have made to them they want to look into it and we never get a response.

Dismuke stated I know someone who might do it cheaper. I could have them look at it and report back at the next meeting.

Burk stated it is up to the Authority. I ask Griffith to find someone with insurance in case of a problem and to make certain we could dump at the landfill for free.

Smith asked is the property being used for the flea market anymore.

Burk stated no. The homeless have started fires there and I believe if we get it cleaned up we won't have to worry about that. I also believe there is illegal dumping going on.

Smith asked if we do clean it up can we insist that they keep it clean?

Burk stated I would like to have a letter from them stating they would not allow another flea market but if they want to put one in they can. We can't make any guarantees.

Dismuke asked which tribe are you dealing with.

Burk stated Comanche.

Safi stated I say if we can get something done we need to take advantage of it.

Smith asked which tribe is responsible for the hospital.

Burk stated the KCA.

Dismuke stated another eye sore is Dunbar School. They have boarded it up but the homeless remove the boards and live in it.

Burk stated Haywood is trying to do something to it.

Tenis stated Albert Johnson, Sr., Haywood and some of the other black leaders in the community are trying to get it restored. This is a very significant building in the black community. Griffith has worked with them on the asbestos abatement and I believe they did get that cleaned up.

Burk stated since this is Trust land and the City can't use City funds on Trust land I thought we could use our funds to clean it up. It would be funds that we raised from the banquet.

That is the way to get around the loop hole. Maybe we table this item until the next meeting and allow Dismuke to see if he can get a better figure than \$5300.

**Motion by Dismuke, Second by Godlove**, to table this item until the February meeting.  
**Aye:** Hankins; Harbison; Hushbeck; Safi; Smith; Tennis; Burk; Dismuke; Godlove. **Nay:** None.  
**Motion Carried.**

3. Old Business

A. Review and Discuss Retreat and take action if necessary.

Burk stated the Retreat is scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. I'm not available that date but I'm not against you going ahead. We did receive an email from Pat Beck wanting to know if we were still on for the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Harbison stated what about the following Saturday on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Burk stated I don't know if Beck will be available. Let's just plan on the 26<sup>th</sup> and I'll contact Beck and let everyone know.

B. Review and Discuss Website and take action if necessary.

Burk stated I'm working on getting this pulled together but I need to meet with Godlove and Safi.

Smith asked are we going to switch to Lawton Beautiful.

Burk stated that is something we need to discuss at our next meeting or the retreat. The site is underway but it is going to take another 30 to 45 days to get it up and running.

C. Review and Discuss Municipal Building and take action if necessary.

Burk stated we have found a few issues with the building. There are leaks coming up through the foundation. They have dug out the flowerbed to see if they can seal it between the building and the bed. I haven't heard from Shahan on what they have decided.

Smith asked are taking into consideration we might be going into a bigger drought than we have been in.

Burks stated yes. Beds done with grant monies we will have to maintain. This is no different than the ODOT overpass project. Tomorrow at 3:30 ODOT will be holding a meeting in regards to the project. I hope you all can attend. When they redo the bridge they are going to have some buffalos and a history trail. It will be held here in the auditorium. We are players in this project and we need as many of us here that can be. It will be a great entryway to Lawton and we all need to be interested.

Hushbeck stated from a PR standpoint we need to think about how we will answer to the community if we are asked about the drought and continuing to plant. We need to have a unified answer. Part of the answer is everything we have planted we put a sprinkler system in. This was brought up due to McConnell's article about the drought in the 50's. If we are in the same pattern we are about 3 years into a 7 year pattern. As an Authority this is something we need to consider.

Tenis asked what kind of things are you talking about. Educating the public. I think everybody knows we are having some serious water issues.

Hushbeck stated the point being if someone stops you on the street and says "I know you are on LETA and what are you guys doing by continuing to plant".

Tenis stated I thought we put a halt on doing anything because of the drought.

Burk stated we have said we were not going to plant anything until we start having some recovery. Dr. Bellino and I talked about doing some different types of plants that were drought tolerant. She planted drought tolerant plants and they are thriving.

Hushbeck stated I'm just saying from a PR point we need to come up with a unified answer.

Burk asked is that something we could do at our retreat.

Hushbeck stated yes.

Burk stated we need to let Beck know that is something we want to focus on.

Godlove asked has the Council consider putting out measures that people might want to follow in their personal use. I mean every time I turn on the shower I think I need to make it quick. These are things people need to be thinking about. We need to remind people that we all need to be good steward of what we have.

Burk stated something that makes me ill is when we have to depressurize a line. It is done by opening a fire hydrant and water just runs down the street. We need to be placing the water into a truck. I agree we need a unified statement and I think Council needs to have one. We have criteria's but nothing about conserving in your homes and businesses. We need to come up with some ideas. Arizona has brochures on conserving water.

Smith stated maybe rain barrels could be part of our website.

Tenis stated I believe we need to have Dave Taylor from the Water Conservatory in Waurika give a presentation. He came to Council with a chart that started in the late 1800's and the rainfall average. I think it would do us well to have him come for a public education. Jerry Ihler stated if we don't get any more rainfall than what we have gotten in the last 2 years we only have 2 years of water left. People need to know how serious it has become.

Godlove asked has the Council looked at what San Antonio has done with regards to recycling wastewater. They have had amazing success with a program because they were faced with severe drought.

Burks stated we've been talking about it. The kicker is you have to run a line. We are doing a study on the amount we have that would be use and cost of running the line for gray water. This would have to be a CIP project because it is going to be a huge amount of money. Tennis can you get with Taylor and set up a time for him to come talk with us.

Tennis stated I'll work on that.

Smith asked is this something we want to open to the public.

Burk stated yes. Hushbeck and Safi can help get the word out to include leaders from other communities.

Tennis stated it isn't about us it is about educating the public. If they understand what situation we are in they want be so upset. Swimming pools is another issue.

Burk stated I think this is a great idea and we need to come up with a plan. We could be the leader in this. We need to change our thinking on how we are going to do things. I'm concerned about the projects we have spent thousands of dollars on all across the City that may die. Keep your fingers crossed and pray a lot that we have a spring with lots of rain. I appreciate everyone being here today. I hope everyone can be here for the ODOT meeting tomorrow. Shahan is now entering the meeting. Is there anything you need to tell us?

Shahan stated no.

Burk stated do you have an update on the Municipal building.

Shahan stated I do not.

Godlove asked would it be appropriate to talk about the absentee policy at the retreat.

Burk stated I think so. Everyone received the email that talked about what we discussed at the last retreat and who was responsible for what. I think we all need to go through it again and make certain you have done everything you were suppose to do before the next retreat. If Beck cannot do the 26<sup>th</sup> I'll contact you to let you know.

4. Announcements

5. Adjournment

**Motion** by Godlove, **Second** by Smith, to adjourn. **Aye:** Hushbeck; Safi; Smith; Tennis; Burk; Godlove; Harbison; Hankins. **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**