

DURANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

February 9, 2016 AT 8:00 A.M.

Durant Industrial Authority Conference Room

I. Call To Order at 8:00 a.m. – Tommy Kramer

Tommy Kramer called the regular monthly Durant Economic Development Council Meeting to order.

II. Opening Invocation – Curtis Armor

III. Roll Call – Laura Voorhies

The following members were present: Curtis Armor, Shaun Banner, Robert Bourne, Ron Boyer, Sean Burrage, Bert Davison, Eddy Dempsey, Scott Dewald, James Dunegan, Mike Goodwin, Bryan Hallmark, Robert Holliday, Tommy Kramer, Greg Massey, Kyle McLemore, Darrell Mendez, Fran Mickle, Rod Miller, Janet Reed and Rick Roy.

The following members were absent: Chris Allen, Sean Bradley, Jeri Cockrell, Chris Glendening, Jeff Hammock, Mayor Stewart Hoffman, Larry Minks, and Jeff Tarrant.

IV. Recognition of Years of Service with the Durant Industrial Authority & Economic Development Council for Fran Mickle & Ron Bennett – Chairman Greg Massey

Greg Massey – We are lucky to have a good Durant Industrial Authority Board that houses different perspectives. Fran Mickle was one that raised the community and helped us bring a good work environment to the City of Durant. Ron Bennett always wanted to be sure that the businesses that came to our community were ones that would stay with us for a long period of time. You both will be missed as long standing members of TEAM DURANT.

Fran Mickle stated: Serving the Durant Industrial Authority has been one of the highlights of my life and seeing the way the council gives real thought to each decision and the citizens should be pleased with the work here to support the City Council and Durant. It is a wonder town and will continue to grow.

Ron Bennett stated: When you look around this room, you can see how many people are plugged into serving the community and it takes a lot of people to do what needs to be done. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve my community. I learned a lot and will miss it. Durant is a great place to live and the people make it the best community to live in. Some people think they want to live in a large city, but just go south a bit and be in that traffic and you want to come back to where people know you and people like to get together and enjoy life. I have been blessed to be a part of it all.

Tommy Kramer – I remember the first time I met Fran’s parents in Wilburton. They made a great difference in that city and that is what Fran has done here in Durant. Ron, thank you for great difference in that city and that is what Fran has done the same here in Durant. Ron, thank you for the friendships you have made while serving and we have all made a great TEAM Durant effort.

V. Consider Approval of Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Meeting. – Tommy Kramer

Robert Holliday motioned to accept the minutes with a second by Robert Bourne. The motion carried by:

Aye: Curtis Armor, Shaun Banner, Robert Bourne, Ron Boyer, Sean Burrage, Bert Davison, Eddy Dempsey, Scott Dewald, James Dunegan, Mike Goodwin, Bryan Hallmark, Robert Holliday, Tommy Kramer, Greg Massey, Kyle McLemore, Darrell Mendez, Fran Mickle, Rod Miller, Janet Reed and Rick Roy.

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VI. Review of City of Durant Sales Tax Revenue History – Tommy Kramer

Tommy Kramer – We have steady growth and the sales tax is up 2.92% for the year.

VII. Review of the Bryan County & State of Oklahoma December 2015 Unemployment Rate - Tommy Kramer

Tommy Kramer – Bryan County is at 4% for December 2015, so we are doing very well.

VIII. Informative Update of Cardinal FG Building Project – Sean Banner

Sean Banner - We have a lot going on at Cardinal FG. We have the best years we have ever had in 2014 and 2015 and had record glass sales. The Durant FG facility had record sales, tonnage and safety within the Cardinal FG Company. We will be rebuilding our furnace at a cost of \$45M and hope to complete the project in 84 days. We will be adding a trim mirror emissions control system, which will make the Durant facility a low polluter at a cost of \$13M. We will also capture heat from the furnace to help generate some of our electricity at a cost of \$6M. Currently we have a new 112,000 square foot addition to the warehouse at a cost of \$8M, so we may add more automation in the plant, which will allow less handling of the glass thus improving safety. We will be spending approximately \$60M this year at the Durant facility. During this, we will have our employees performing different types of maintenance, as we do not lay people off.

IX. Presentation of Business Development & Commerce with Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma – Tammye Gwin

Tammye Gwin – (Reviewed her PowerPoint presentation for the Economic Development Council.) The Choctaw Nation has 200,000 tribal member shareholders. The Choctaw Nation owns the Winding Stair Ranch with over 44,000 acres and we will be continuing the agriculture business efforts. The new headquarters will allow the Choctaw Nation to house everything under one roof. The new Health Clinic will serve any tribe member, not just Choctaws and will also have some outpatient services available. We have been to several conferences to help promote our communities and recruit businesses to the Southeastern Oklahoma area. The two largest cities for Choctaw Nation are Durant and McAlester. We have

a new website to promote all of our Choctaw counties, www.choctawcountry.com. Please visit and plan your next trip.

Tommy Kramer – I attended the ICSC conference and the Choctaw booth was great and we have had three national retail brokers come to Durant as a result of the retail trade show in Dallas.

Greg Massey – we want to thank the Choctaw Nation for helping us bring the Commercial Metals Company to our community with the workforce grant.

XI. Durant Industrial Project Review – Tommy Kramer

Tommy Kramer – (Reviewed his PowerPoint presentation with the Economic Development Council). This will be our biggest year for the City of Durant and Bryan County with the help and support from all of you and TEAM DURANT.

XII. New Business – Tommy Kramer

Janet Reed – We still have some Southeastern Oklahoma State University Blue and Gold tickets available.

XIII. Adjournment – Tommy Kramer

Greg Massey motioned for adjournment with a second from Robert Holliday.
Tommy Kramer called the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.