

CARTER COUNTY TOMORROW, LLC MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 25, 2011

ATTENDING: Charles La Porte, Chairman..Keith Hart..David Bautista..
Sonja Culler..Steve Lowrance..Richard Tester..Cleo Reed. Tom Anderson, Felisha English.
Annika Hampton, Jon Carley, Leon Humphrey, Steve Burwick..Dean Blevins.

Motion to accept the March 28, 2011 minutes was made by Richard Tester, seconded by Sonja Culler. Motion passed.

Financial report was presented. Motion to accept the report was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Steve Lowrance. Motion passed.

Steve Lowrance, Chairman of the Carter County Education committee, introduced Dean Blevins, Director of Tennessee Technology Center, who told the Board about programs, offered at the TTC in Elizabethton. He stated that the Elizabethton Center is one of the three left from the original 27 centers in the state and it is the only one serving the Tri Cities. Enrollment is 525 and students have a 77% completion rate with 86% placement rate for Tennessee Technology Center students.

Chamber of Commerce Interim Director, Felicia English stated that Carter County is planning to visit Loudon County in Tennessee for the Community Connection aspect of the Three Star Program. She reported that three new members had been added to the Chamber in April and 26 new members since the first of 2011.

Tourism Coordinator, Annika Hampton, reported that the revamped Tourism website has a simpler, viewer friendly look to attract visitors. She had attended the Regional Tourism meeting to discuss the US 321 Smoky Mountain Byway. Tennessee Tourism Commissioner, Susqan Whitake, was also in attendance at that meeting.

Tom Anderson reported that he had talked with more business prospects in recent weeks. One is an alternative energy firm looking at Carter County as a possible location for its research development and manufacturing components business. Another prospect is a food processing and distribution center. He is still trying to locate potential sites for prospects.

During the March Board Meeting, Tom Anderson told the Board that he would present an action plan to address the area drug problem. At the April meeting, He stated that a coalition will be formed with representatives from youth of the area, parents, busines and industry, schools, law enforcement, health care and other persons and groups and agencies.

The goal of this coalition would be to find ways to reduce substance abuse among area young people and then eventually among adults....to create a community assessment, developing a strategic plan and to sustain an ongoing effort to reach the goal. Anderson ask the Board to make recommendations of persons to serve as coalition members.

Next meeting will be April 23, 2011