

*Approved 11-26-12
Steve Lowrance*

APPROVED

CARTER COUNTY TOMORROW, LLC
OCTOBER 22, 2012
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT—STEVE LOWRANCE, KEITH HART, KEITH YOUNG, JENNIFER THACKER, CHANDREA SHELL, ROB TONEY, LEON HUMPHREY, DWAYNE TAYLOR, JON HARTMAN, TOM ANDERSON, CLEO REED, CHARLES LA PORTE, SONJA CULLER, KIM EGGERS, ANNIKA HAMPTON, TONYA STEVENS, DAVID BAUTISTA, JOHN THOMPSON, RICHARD TESTER.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

FINANCIALS WERE APPROVED.

KEITH YOUNG INTRODUCED JENNIFER THACKER, AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF NORTHEAST STATE ELIZABETHTON. MR YOUNG WILL BE INVOLVED WITH THE JOHNSON CITY CAMPUS.

REPORTS: TOURISM—ANNIKA HAMPTON SHOWED A PREVIEW OF THE TOURISM PROGRAM OF WORK AND MARKETING PLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR. HER INFORMATION STATED THAT THERE WERE MORE THAN A MILLION VISITS TO THE TWO STATE PARKS IN CARTER COUNTY. A DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE COLLECTION OF THE MOTEL/HOTEL TAX FROM THOSE IN THE COUNTY NOT ALREADY PAYING THIS TAX.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT—KIM EGGERS: STATED THAT THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EMPLOYEES HAD HELPED TO GET THE FRASER FIR READY FOR THE LIGHTING IN NOVEMBER. SHE STATED THAT ALL REQUIREMENTS HAD BEEN MET TO ALLOW NORTHEAST STATE TO CONTINUE ITS EXPANSION PROGRAM OTHER THAN THE TENNESSEE FIRE MARSHAL.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—TONYA STEVENS SAID THAT SHE HAD ATTENDED THE GOVERNORS CONFERENCE. SHE SAID THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARADE WERE UNDERWAY. THE CHAMBER HAS PARTNERED WITH UNITED WAY TO RECEIVE ANY MONIES OVER AND ABOVE EXPENSES FOR THE PARADE. THE BUY-A-BULB FUND IS \$600 SHORT OF MONIES NEEDED TO REPLACE THE BULBS AND WIRING.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—TOM ANDERSON SAID THAT THERE WAS NEW INFORMATION FOR THE THREE STAR PROGRAM AND A LOT OF THE DIFFICULT PARTS WERE NOT INCLUDED. A PLAN WILL NEED TO BE PRESENTED AT THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.

JON HARTMAN, ELIZABETHTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AND TOM ANDERSON MET RECENTLY WITH OFFICIALS FROM CHATTANOOGA TO GET SOME INFORMATION ABOUT HOW THEIR PROJECT CAME ABOUT. ELIZABETHTON HAS A LINEAR PATHWAY ALONG THE WATAUGA RIVER WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPED. HARTMAN AND ANDERSON THINK THE PROPOSED FISH HATCHERY WOULD BE A MAGNET FOR DEVELOPERS. CARTER COUNTY MAYOR LEON HUMPHREY SAID THAT HIS OFFICE HAS BEEN WORKING TO INFORM OTHERS ABOUT THE FISH HATCHERY. THE STATE BUILDING PLAN HAS ALREADY APPROVED THE PLANS TO DEVELOPE THE FISH HATCHERY.

KEITH HART INFORMED THE GROUP THAT ALL THE NEW BULBS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED ON THE 78-FOOT FRASER FIR WHICH SERVES AS THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE. OVER 2200 NEW BULBS AND 2200 FEET OF NEW WIRE WERE INCLUDED. HE THANKED THE ELIZABETHTON ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT AND CHARLES ROTENBERRY OF TRI CITIES LIGHTING FOR THEIR WORK ON THE PROJECT.

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