

MINUTES

The Northwest Tennessee Development District Executive Committee and Northwest Tennessee Human Resource Agency Governing Board convened on March 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at 124 Weldon Drive Martin, TN. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Chairman John Penn Ridgeway.

Chairman Ridgeway then asked Emily Payne to call the roll. The record shows the following members were present.

Mayor Joseph Butler – Carroll County
Mayor Jake Bynum – Weakley County
Mayor John Penn Ridgeway – Henry County
Mayor Danny Cook- Lake County
Mayor Mark Ward-Benton County
Mayor Steve Carr-Obion County
Mayor Nelson Cunningham- Gibson County
Mayor David Quick– Dyer County
Mayor John Holden- Dyersburg
Mayor Cindy McAdams-Greenfield

Director Payne informed the chairman that a quorum was present.

First item on the agenda was the approval of the Board minutes from the December 7, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Mayor Joseph Butler to accept minutes. The motion was seconded by Mayor David Quick. Motion passed unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was the discussion/approval of the 2023 Development District audit reports. Executive Director Melinda Goode then spoke about how we were unable to vote on the audits in December because the audits had been pushed back due to the Aging department not properly utilizing their grant funding to utilize cost. TCAD was reached out to and the money has been received. This was the only finding with the Development District audit. Seeing as there were no questions, Mayor Jake Bynum made a motion to accept the 2023 Development District Audit report. The motion was seconded by Mayor Steve Carr motion approved unanimously.

Next was the discussion/approval of the 2023 Human Resource Agency audit reports. Executive Director Goode told that the 2023 HRA audit had no findings. Seeing there were no questions, Mayor Cindy McAdams then made a motion to accept the 2023 Human Resource Agency Audit Report. The motion was seconded by Mayor David Quick, Motion approved unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was Old Business. Seeing there was none, Chairman Ridgeway moved to New Business.

Following on the agenda was New Business, starting with the discussion/approval of the Development District Financial Reports. Financial Director, Katelyn Edwards, spoke about Bethany Brock reaching out to the mayors about grants coming out. Director Edwards also spoke about the Administration department getting ready to start year end coming up in June. Director Edwards also spoke about how we were fully staffed at the Development District. Seeing as there were no more questions Mayor Joseph Butler made a motion to accept. Motion was then seconded by Mayor Jake Bynum, motion approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda under new business was the discussion/approval of the Human Resource Agency Financial Reports. Director Edwards spoke about Transportation getting a new software system that has had its challenges but has proven to be very helpful. Director Edwards spoke about the Homemaker Department are still helping in homes and Nutrition is still delivering meals. Seeing as there were no more questions Mayor Joseph Butler made a motion to accept. Motion was then seconded by Mayor Cindy McAdams, motion approved unanimously.

Next under other business Executive Director, Melinda Goode, spoke about the mayors receiving an email from Isa Reeb. The email showed the different counties and their economic information. Director Goode encouraged the mayors to reach out to Ms. Reeb about any interest they had and to include the Development District staff when possible so we can help when needed. Director Goode also gave the mayors the impact study that was made for when the Development Districts went to the legislatures to ask for more money. She spoke to if we got additional funds that we might could hire additional grant writers to further help the mayors and their communities. Director Goode also spoke about Congressman Kustoff asking if we could move our June 2024 meeting to June 21, 2024. The mayors were in agreeance to move the meeting to June 21, 2024.

Next on the agenda was Sammy Lowdermilk, Tech Goes Home Tennessee. Mr. Lowdermilk was presenting about the opportunities that Tech Goes Home Tennessee can give to the counties in Northwest Tennessee.

Mayor Ridgeway made a call for any public comments and there were none at this time.

Next Department Directors spoke about their programs and what is currently happening.

Lastly, Chairman Ridgeway introduced guests that were present.

Meeting adjourned.

Board Approval Date 6/21/24 ~~Nelson Cunningham, Secretary/Treasurer~~

John Penn Ridgeway
Chairman

John Penn Ridgeway

Chair