



Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 18, 2009
Governor's Large Conference Room, State Capitol
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

ADVISORY BOARD

Present

Lt. Governor Jari Askins
Byron Berline
Margo Gray-Proctor
Kathy Henry
Chris Salyer
Max Weitzenhoffer

Guests

Kelly Bounds
David Turnipseed

Absent

Steve Alter
Chad Burris
Robyn Elliott
Lael Erickson
Jim Rodgers

STAFF

Claudia Conner
Abby Kurin
Chris Kucharski
Julie Porter
Jill Simpson

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order by Lt. Governor Jari Askins at 2:16 p.m. Jill Simpson, Director of the Oklahoma Film & Music Office, confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Salyer moved and Kathy Henry seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2009, meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

OKLAHOMA FILM ENHANCEMENT REBATE PROGRAM CHANGES

- New Guidelines
 - On July 1, 2009 the new incentives went into effect
 - Increased from 15% to 35% cash back rebate
 - We pulled from a lot of different programs around the country in order to understand what works and what are the pitfalls of other incentives programs
 - We understand that every film will be different and we want to be fair, but most importantly we want the best for the state of Oklahoma
 - Have created clear cut application forms for productions, which allow us to service them better

HIGHLIGHT OF RECENT FILM & MUSIC OFFICE ACTIVITIES

- Incentives Office's Summer Incentives Symposium in August
 - Participated on the panel representing Oklahoma, along with New Mexico, Michigan, and Louisiana
 - The other states do not have a cap on their programs, unlike Oklahoma which has a \$5 million cap
 - While in Los Angeles, met with film industry professionals
- OF&MO Interim Study in November
 - Representative Wright has requested an interim study to learn about the economic impact of the film industry
 - This will be a positive to way show *Killer Inside Me* money spent in Oklahoma, etc
 - Invite guest speakers to speak based on experience
- The Osage Nation has purchased an airpark near downtown Tulsa
 - Company behind ABQ Studios in Albuquerque, New Mexico is interested in possibly retrofitting hangers for production use
 - This opportunity would create jobs, and bring permanent companies to Oklahoma
- Met with head of the Teamsters in Oklahoma
 - Teamster Transportation Coordinator on *Killer* is in the process of forming an Oklahoma LLC, which in turn has an electrical company following suit
- Music Incentives
 - We are not where we need to be with music incentives, but it is important to point out that with the new incentives, a film can receive an additional rebate of 2% on the total Oklahoma spend for using Oklahoma music, Oklahoma recording facilities, and/or Oklahoma music producer
- OF&MO has already earmarked rebate monies for FY10
 - \$4.6 million
- Media Coverage
 - Create a proactive press release highlighting all the positive things happening for the film and music industries in Oklahoma. This would start discussion before the legislative session begins in February.

- Have a shot at film
 - “I am Cancer” Mandate Pictures
- California Incentives – suffering right now
 - There are many holes in their program
- We have fans out there supporting us in the film industry, but we need money (removing the cap)
- Pending Applications as of August 2009
 - *Heavens Rain* – Brooks Douglas
 - *You Can’t Win* – To be filmed in Guthrie/pushed
 - *Music for Torching*- Repeat client KIM
 - *Untitled Project D*- A list star/ director
 - In the scouting process
 - Direct – Tulsa, Bartlesville, Pawhuska
 - *Just Crazy Enough*- Lance McDaniel/ Sean Lynch
- Other films potentially in the cue
 - *Spectacular Now*- Mark Webb of *500 Days of Summer*
 - Famke Janssen- *Xmen/ Bond Girl*
 - Directorial debut
 - \$2 million
 - *Bringing Up Bobby*
 - Wilma Mankiller – *Cherokee Word For Water*
 - Small budget
 - Kathy Henry- What can the board do?
 - Need more oversight in Tulsa
 - Need meeting in Tulsa to go over scouting process, could be useful for chamber, etc
- Film Status Report
 - *Killer Inside Me* wrapped July 2009
 - There was union issue because there were two crew members not happy and they called their union representative. It potentially could be \$100,000 hit, plus they want the interns to be paid for their services.
 - Interns were happy to work without pay because it is a great opportunity to get their foot in the door with work force training.
 - This is an issue. When it becomes an issue it is our problem because it is a PR issue for the state
 - Estimated 13 – 14 million dollar spend
 - The payout would be \$500,000 because the film only qualified for the 15% rebate since production started spring 2009
- Music State Report
 - Need to start legislative plan, we want to create something concrete for music
 - Need to talk to Julia Kirt at OVAC, as well as ODOC
- Creative Artist Guild
 - Task Force
 - We need to start dialogue
 - Representative Denny

- South by Southwest Music Festival and Conference
 - Sax, Clogs, and Rock & Roll, Oklahoma's first official music showcase
 - Over 750 people were in attendance
 - Nine bands were featured at the event
 - Music never stopped
 - Three hour event
 - Food/Drinks were available
 - Lots of Buzz while in Austin
 - Want to keep the brand going and will continue next year
 - Recognized for the benefit of it and film side as well
- DFest
 - OF&MO was a sponsor again this year
 - Another successful year for the Tulsa festival
 - Need to find out their numbers of attendance
- New York City in March
 - Attended the Native American Film + Video Festival and MoMA's New Films/New Directors
 - Went in support of *Barking Water*
 - The film is a love letter to Oklahoma
 - Soundtrack features all local music
- Locations Magazine
 - Oklahoma is on the cover, Roosevelt Bridge in Kingston
 - Distributed at the Cannes Film Festival and all studios
 - Has a shelf life of a year
 - Photograph by David Fitzgerald
 - OF&MO gave a copy to Clint Eastwood while at the Produced By conference in L.A. in June
 - There is a rumor that they are tearing down the bridge in three years. Something should be done to prevent this
- Rock & Roll song
 - Flaming Lips, "Do You Realize??"
 - Hot button for a lot of people
 - The Governor had to step in and sign an executive order because he recognized that it was a vote of the people and that is what the people of Oklahoma chose
 - There has been amazing coverage all over the nation over this story, including:
 - NPR
 - Rolling Stone Magazine
- AFCI Locations Trade show
 - Held in Santa Monica in April
 - OF&MO attended to promote Oklahoma
- Producer's Guild of America's Produced By Conference
 - Held in June
 - \$5000 to attend, and only prominent members in the PGA attend
 - Would like to go again next year, networked with many producers at the Oklahoma booth during the conference

- Have been in talks with Focus Features for a \$30 million feature due to being present at that event
- Another Hot Oklahoma Night
 - May 1 opening night
 - 1,200 people in attendance
 - Wanda Jackson, the Collins Kids, etc., performed that night
 - AHON coffee table book
 - Will be having Saturday concerts
 - They are also in the process of creating a documentary
- Music Hall of Fame – Representative Faught
 - Brought meeting together
 - Want to rebuild music history trails
 - We have incredible talent from Oklahoma
- Reel-Scout
 - Used it right away
 - The locations database is incredible
- Reel-Crew
 - 125 registered in a week
 - Chris Kucharski is editing
 - Professional credits only
 - Going through every registration from the past production guide and making courtesy call through August 31
- Website redesign
 - Met with OK.gov
 - As a state agency, we must meet with them first
 - Created specs
 - User interface, etc.
 - Well under what we had anticipated for paying
 - Addressed many issues
 - OF&MO is asking for a lot and they were just as excited as we are about the potential of the new Website
- Facebook
 - Margo Gray-Proctor brought up the idea of an OF&MO Facebook page
 - It is difficult for a state agency to have a social page like that, right now that is not an option for our office
- Barbara Johnston/ Jeanette Elliot
 - Oklatravel.net for Music & Film
 - Start feeding them product
 - More ways to get word out about our office
- Academy of Contemporary Music at the University of Central Oklahoma
 - Ribbon cutting, press conference, and concerts held
 - Huge success so far, high enrollment, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

- Venice Film Festival, Italy, September 2-12
 - Jill will be attending the festival in support of the film, *Barking Water*, and its director Sterlin Harjo and producer Chad Burris

- Opportunity to show filmmakers and industry Oklahoma made and produced film and to also promote new incentives on a world-wide stage
 - State is covering Jill's roundtrip airfare, but Jill will cover all other expenses personally
 - Margo Gray-Proctor questioned her reasoning to pay for everything herself out of pocket
 - Jill felt that with today's economic situation, she should not ask for more than the price of the ticket
- OF&MO welcomes two new advisory board members
 - Dr. Jim Rodgers, Cain's Ballroom, Tulsa
 - Robyn Elliot, Chickasaw Nation
- No longer on the board, but we thank them for their dedication and service over the years
 - Gray Frederickson
 - Jeanne Hoffman Smith
- Potential Robert Knott TV series
 - Development project set in Pawhuska
 - Would be about the Osage nation / Greenwood race riot
- Chris Salyer mentioned that he would like to see our offices be moved
 - OF&MO needs a street presence
- Chris Salyer also mentioned the Creativity World Forum
 - Two Day conference, potential of bringing in filmmakers from around the world and have them film Oklahoma from their perspective
- Film Row in Oklahoma City
 - Located at Walker, Classen, Main and California, Reno District
 - Street scaping will be ready by next spring
 - We need more available space for productions to come in on temporary basis
- Kathy Henry mentioned the use of public relations interns
 - Start plan for interim study to get motivated, before legislative session.
- Byron Berline mentioned the International Bluegrass Festival in Guthrie
 - October 1-3, 2009
 - He also mentioned the opening of the Banjo Museum in Bricktown

ADJORN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with a motion by Chris Salyer and a second by Kathy Henry. All voted in favor. Motioned carried.