



Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 17, 2009
Governor's Large Conference Room, State Capitol
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

ADVISORY BOARD

Present

Lt. Governor Jari Askins
Chad Burris
Robyn Elliott
Lael Erickson
Kathy Henry
Jim Rodgers
Chris Salyer

Absent

Steve Alter
Byron Berline
Margo Gray-Proctor
Max Weitzenhoffer

STAFF

Claudia Conner
Abby Kurin
Chris Kucharski
Julie Porter
Jill Simpson
Hardy Watkins

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order by Lt. Governor Jari Askins at 2:07 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 Leal Erickson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2009, meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHLIGHT OF RECENT FILM & MUSIC OFFICE ACTIVITIES

- Interim Study Recap
 - Held Tuesday, November 17, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the State Capitol
 - Requested by Representative Wright
 - Hit main points during presentation
 - Lt. Governor Jari Askins mentioned that the guest speakers, especially Adena Lewis from the Smithville Chamber of Commerce, validated the economic impact of the office

- Legislative Session 2010
 - Due December 1, want to include both film and music in 2010
 - Would like to ask to lift the current cap on the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate
 - Would also like to extend exemption for open records, it is very important that we are able to protect work zones for productions
 - Want to include a music initiative, the last one we had was SB290, which was two sessions ago
 - Jill Simpson mentioned that if anyone had any ideas or comments, to please let the office know
 - Lt. Governor said that with budget cuts, things will be difficult. But if it is important and OF&MO believes that it is something that is needed, then it is important to start discussing it immediately

- Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate
 - Issues:
 - Chad Burris said that the cap is big problem, as well as the issue of qualified spend in the state, and the sunset date for the rebate program which is 2014. He also mentioned labor costs and that Louisiana and New Mexico allow out of state crew to qualify
 - Jill Simpson mentioned that she had a meeting with the Tax Commission about pass-throughs. She feels the weight of that pressure because they said if the OF&MO approves, they will cut a check based on our approval. We do not have an in-office auditor, which is difficult. Especially with the Iowa Film Commission situation
 - Julie Porter said that the *The Killer Inside Me* production ledger that was turned in is a daunting task. Very thorough information, and organized, but very time consuming
 - Hardy Watkins mentioned that we built our program to be conservative because we are a growing industry
 - Lael Erickson asked what the OF&MO needed when reviewing the rebate/ pass-throughs, Jill Simpson responded by saying that she would like something that backs her up when reviewing pass-throughs and also that eventually we will need a full-time auditor
 - Claudia Conner said that everyone should feel comfortable because we have protections, as long as we follow the rules
 - Lt. Governor Jari Askins mentioned that we need to make sure to give the OF&MO what they need. That way the productions can focus on being creative, and not focused solely on incentives

- Film Status
 - Working with Untitled Project D as they work with the community
 - Projects potentially coming to the state are large productions, which is great for the state and something that we have all worked hard for
- Music Status
 - 2010 South by Southwest Oklahoma Showcase in Austin, Texas
 - Will be held on Thursday, March 18
 - Working with Norman Music Festival this year, including Jonathan Fowler and Quinton Bomgardner
 - Will also be speaking to:
 - Oklahoma Department of Commerce
 - Academy of Contemporary Music
 - And others
- Staffing Changes
 - Yousef Kazemi has stepped in two days a week as the seasonal Administrative Assistant

NEW BUSINESS

- Online Presence
 - Lael Erickson mentioned that a strong online presence is key
 - Must be considered for movie distribution and Oklahoma films/productions
 - Could it be possible to add it to rebate?
- Tulsa Office
 - Chad Burris mentioned that we need someone in Tulsa for the office. With potentially *True Grit* filming in Northeast Oklahoma, it is important to have someone there. He also said that we need to be talking with Mayor Bartlett's office
 - Jill Simpson stated that this is something we have been working on and has been a challenge in the past

ADJORN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m. with a motion by Chris Salyer and a second by Lael Erickson. All voted in favor. Motioned carried.