

Minutes of the Regular Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority Meeting of **April 17, 2023**, 6:00 p.m., Atoka City Hall, 353 East A Street, Atoka, Oklahoma. Original Agenda Posted **April 14, 2023**, at 4:00 p.m.; Atoka City Hall, 353 East A Street, Atoka, Oklahoma.

I. Convene Meeting

- A. Meeting Called to Order- PM
- B. Welcome- Chairman Brian Cathey
- C. Roll Call- Trustee Coby Sherrill-absent, Trustee Erica Pogue, Trustee Pat Turner, Trustee Diane McGee, Chairman Brian Cathey
- D. Public Recognition- Thomas Stephens, Kristin Stephens, Carol Ervin, Coralyne Michaelis, Miranda Donihoo, Cindy Wallis

II. Public Comments - (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

III. Business Agenda

A. Public Hearing

B. Chairman/Trustees Agenda Items

1. Discussion and/or action regarding approving or rejecting the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2023 (Attachment #1)

A motion was made by Trustee McGee and seconded by Trustee Pogue to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2023. Voting aye, Pogue, Turner, McGee, and Chairman Cathey. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

2. Discussion and/or action regarding accepting or rejecting the Sports Complex Manager's Report

The Economic Development Director, Carol Ervin, stated that the guys have been busy installing fencing around the backstops and outfielders for t-ball fields or practice fields. Ms. Ervin informed the board of the unique way Destry Mitchell, Marketing and League Manager, advertised the opening tournament- being free to enter and offering a discount to all who enter the first tournament to use at the next. So far, the league for 2023 has been very successful and games begin next Monday, Ms. Ervin followed with a joke about three-year-olds and t-ball being better than TV. City Manager, Danny Delay, gave an update that over 900 kids are signed up this year. Ms. Ervin said it has been a huge difference with bringing the league in house. Trustee Pogue asked about flyers to pass around the schools. Sign up has been closed, but Ms. Ervin believes the schools were notified. Trustee McGee said she is happy to help with concession.

A motion was made by Trustee Pogue and seconded by Trustee McGee to accept the Sports Complex Manager's Report. Voting aye, Turner, McGee, Pogue, and Chairman Cathey. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

3. Discussion and/or action on approving or rejecting the payment of purchase orders for the Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority for the month of March 2023. (Attachment #3)

A motion was made by Trustee Pogue and seconded by Trustee McGee to approve the payment of purchase orders for the Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority for the month of March 2023. Voting aye, McGee, Pogue, Turner, and Chairman Cathey. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

After the motion, Trustee McGee asked about a Splashpad update. Mr. Delay announced that the estimated completion date is around June 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

4. Discussion and/or possible action for the Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority director to start contract negotiations regarding the use of the Atoka Sports Complex for a collegiate baseball team. Presentation by Tommy Stephens – Carol Ervin

Economic Development and Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority Director, Carol Ervin, introduced Tommy Stephens and stated that this proposal has many opportunities for the community. Tommy Stephens addressed the Board of Trustees and provided a presentation. Mr. Stephens discussed the Texas Collegiate League and the need for an Expansion Team in the Texoma area. There are five teams, and 50,000 collegiate players that may never have the opportunity to be seen by scouts to pursue a major league career. This league began in 2003. Mr. Stephens discussed the success of the league and the opportunities for the players and communities. Host families would be needed, while the league covers transportation and offers benefits to the host families. There are 30 players per team. In doing so, this would be the only wood bat collegiate team in Oklahoma. Coaches are generally High School Coaches, or Junior College Coaches. The games are all during the week and each week there are three home games and three away games. Rough numbers were given to the board of trustees. Ms. Ervin stated that this would entail a very strong indirect economic impact, bringing in indirect dollars to the city. Trustee Turner asked if this would interfere with little league and Trustee McGee asked if this interferes with the players college work. The trustees were answered by no, the league is more towards the end of June into July, which is after little league ends, and the players will be out of college for Summer in May. A public vote would take place to choose a team name, color, and mascot. One thousand seats are a requirement, the current field has roughly 200-300. The fence would also need raised by 35-feet. The negotiations to take place would determine who covers what expenses, the league or the city. The contract would then be brought back before the Board of Trustees. Ms. Ervin mentioned [visitatoka.com](http://visitatoka.com) and the filling up of hotel rooms if this should come to pass. The league would follow AA Ruling.

A motion was made by Trustee McGee and seconded by Trustee Pogue to approve the Atoka Industrial Facilities Authority Director to begin contract negotiations regarding the use of the Atoka Sports Complex for collegiate baseball team. Voting aye, Pogue, Turner, McGee, and Chairman Cathey. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

#### C. Public Requested Agenda Items

IV. Consent Agenda Item

V. Executive Session

VI. New Business

VII. Trustee Comments

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee McGee and seconded by Trustee Pogue to adjourn this meeting at 6:36 PM. Voting aye, Pogue, Turner, McGee, and Chairman Cathey. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

**Adjourned: 6:36 PM**

**Attest:  
(seal)**

**AIFA**

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**Rhonda Givens, Secretary**

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**Brian Cathey, Chairman**