



**Wednesday, March 15, 2016, Minutes**  
**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center**

At 11:36 AM the fourteenth meeting of the LR CENT Committee was called to order.

Committee Members present during the meeting were: Dr. Sybil Jordan Hampton, Peter McKinney O'Connor, Dr. Anika Whitfield, Steve Strickland, Donald Shellabarger, Kenneth Gill, Marsheerah Tharpe, and Troy Laha.

Committee Members Not Present were: Denise Jones Ennett, Rep. Charles Blake, Khayyam Eddings

Also present were: City Manager Bruce Moore and other City Staff

**Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Hampton made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2015, meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Laha, and the minutes were approved without objection.

**General Financial Report**

Sara Lenehan, Finance Director, gave a summary update of new sales tax receipts for the month of February, collected in December. The total 2015 proceeds were \$30,773,111 (5/8 Cent Operating) and \$18,430,387 (3/8 Cent Capital) for a total of \$49,203,498. This is up 3.68% from the previous year.

Ms. Lenehan reviewed the status of major projects. Following the conclusion of her presentation, Mr. Strickland led discussion about the possibility of making changes to future presentations so that it would be easier to connect the financial reporting with the individual departmental updates. This will be done.

**Department of Public Works**

Public Works Director Jon Honeywell reviewed the status of the projects approved by the City Board for the 2013-2015 time period. Many of these have been bid and are now under construction. He also noted that the second round of public meetings for the 2016-2018 projects have taken place. The City Board has approved that list. Mr. Honeywell reviewed those lists for each Ward.

**Little Rock Police Department**

Chief Kenton Buckner reported that the construction had started at the Pankey Station (West Little Rock Police Station). The estimated completion date is under discussion.

Recruit School #82 began June 29 with thirty-four (34) recruits and graduated twenty-three (23) officers on December 11. Recruit School #84 began February 22 with 33 recruits. As of March 15, there were still 31 recruits in the class.

### **Little Rock Zoo**

Zoo Director, Mike Blakeley reported that the Arkansas Heritage Farm exhibit was nearing completion and would open on April 2. Other projects are continuing with the majority on schedule. The Gray Water Treatment Plant was delayed due to weather but should be finished by August 2016.

### **Department of Community Programs**

Community Programs Director Dana Dossett discussed the successes of the Re-Entry program. Several of the participants have been hired full-time by the City or by private employers. She reviewed the placements in Public Works, Fleet Services, the Zoo, Animal Services, the Police, and Human Resources. Ms. Dossett also discussed the Department's partnership with Goodwill Industries and Our House for re-entry services.

Ms. Dossett then updated the Committee on the plans to develop Skills Training Curriculum working with industry, higher education and non-profits in Little Rock.

### **Department of Fleet Services**

Fleet Services Director Wendell Jones reviewed a list of fleet purchases since the last report given. These have been for the Police Department and Zoo. From January through March, these have totaled \$190,079.99.

City Manager Bruce Moore informed the Committee that Mr. Jones would be retiring from the City in May after 41 years with the City. The Committee joined Mr. Moore in expressing their appreciation to Mr. Jones.

### **Information Technologoy Department**

I.T. Director Randy Foshee discussed upgrades to the City's website as well as plans for enhancing the City's Infor/Lawson finance system and HR system.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 pm.