

MINUTES

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
TENNESSEE CITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 22, 2008
SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE**

The TCMA Executive Board met at the Wilderness at the Smokies Resort Hotel in Sevierville, TN on October 22, 2008. President Kevin Helms called the meeting to order at 10:30am.

Roll Call was taken and recorded as follows:

Present

Kevin Helms
Angie Carrier
Mitch Moore
Robert Wherry
Janice Casteel
Bill Hammon
Jody Baltz

Absent

James Lewellen

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Ms. Carrier to accept the minutes of the June 22, 2008 meeting. All voted "yes" – motion carried.

The budget report was discussed. President Helms advised the Board that TCMA's corporate status had lapsed several years ago and has not been renewed. There was a brief discussion about how the lack of non-profit status might affect the filing of this year's (FY 2007) federal income taxes. A motion was made by Mr. Hammon, seconded by Ms. Casteel, to have the Executive Director retain the services of a CPA to advise TCMA on the renewal of the corporate status and the filing of the taxes. All voted "yes" – motion carried.

The Board reviewed a draft contract offered by the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro for the Spring 2009 TCMA conference. The board instructed the Executive Director to pursue a final contract based on the draft, but to seek a negotiated reduction in the hotel fees. Board members believe that the hotel had initially offered \$99 room rates, but the draft contract now specifies rates of \$139.

The Board then discussed the selection of a city in which to hold the Fall, 2009 TCMA Conference. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Hammon, to hold this conference in Chattanooga, with a target date of the 3rd week in October. All voted "yes" – motion carried.

At this point the Executive Director sought the Board's input on programs for future conferences. The Board asked that a list developed prior to the Spring, 2008 Conference be circulated before developing any further ideas.

Ms. Carrier delivered a short report from the Legislative Committee. She reported that the Committee has asked TML to include TCMA in the legislative lobbying process – and to seek TCMA input before hiring TML staff.

Mr. Moore discussed the need for city managers to get involved at the TML district level so that they could be elected as board members from the district and then serve on the TML Board of Directors.

President Helms indicated that he would move item #9 on the Agenda (Report on the Expulsion of TCMA Member) to the last item on the Agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

- President Helms discussed TCMA involvement in the ICMA's Credentialed City Manager testing process, to be conducted in the Spring of 2009. He explained how the test results might be used to structure future TCMA seminars and training sessions. The Board agreed to contact ICMA for details, including testing fees.
- It was pointed out that Doug Bishop's widow would be attending the TCMA lunch scheduled for October 23rd. In the weeks since Doug's untimely death, there has been some unofficial discussion about making a contribution to one of his favorite charities in Doug's name. Motion by Mr. Moore, seconded by Ms. Carrier, to donate \$1,000 to the Sevier County Food Ministry in the name of Doug Bishop. All voted "yes" – motion carried.
- Mike Tallent, MTAS Executive Director, was present and asked to address the Board on two matters. First, Mr. Tallent discussed how the MTAS Advisory Committee had considered asking municipal associations such as TCMA to contribute funds toward sending an MTAS employee to the annual ICMA conference. Mr. Tallent did not request funding at this time, but only that the matter be considered in the next budget. Second, Mr. Tallent advised the Board that the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence would be meeting at the Cool Springs Marriot Hotel in February -- and that an invited speaker would be the city manager of Coral Gables, FL. Mr. Tallent informed the Board that this city manager and his city have won the Baldrige Award for excellence – the only city in the country to have done so. He suggested that TCMA might want to try to arrange a meeting with this city manager on February 19th when he will be present.

Finally, President Helms turned to the matter of the expulsion of a TCMA member. The member in question is former Oak Hill city manager William Kraus. President Helms advised the Board that Mr. Kraus had recently been expelled from TCMA following a review of allegations of unethical/unprofessional conduct. It was explained that Mr. Kraus is alleged to have endorsed a candidate for Oak Hill city council while Mr. Kraus was still employed as Oak Hill's city manager.

Copies of the minutes of the Ethics Committee meeting were given to each Board member. Motion by Mr. Baltz, second by Mr. Wherry, to accept these minutes.

President Helms then provided photocopies of a letter advising Mr. Kraus of his expulsion, along with a photocopy of Mr. Kraus' written response. Mr. Kraus' response suggests legal action unless TCMA restores his membership. The Board discussed meeting with the attorney (Steve Elliot of Nashville)

assisting TCMA in this matter before taking any further action. Motion by Mr. Baltz, second by Ms. Carrier, to have TCMA's attorney send Mr. Kraus a letter advising him of his right of appeal.

There being no other business coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Angerer
Executive Director