

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (GAC)**  
Ouachita Events Building, Ponce de Leon Center, 1101 Desoto Blvd.  
Friday, October 5, 2018, 8:00 AM

**ATTENDANCE**

**Committee Members Present**

Pamela Avila  
Michael Dollar  
Jim Harlow  
Greg Jones  
Keith Keck  
Jerry Yeric

**Committee Members Absent**

Bob Hebert  
Lu Otto  
Curt Malone  
David Whitlow  
Richard Johnson (resigned)

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

Bob Shoemaker

**POA Liaisons**

Lesley Nally, POA CEO

**Other POA Board Members**

Bob Cunningham

**Justices of the Peace**

Larry Griffin, Garland County  
Jim Zahnd, Saline County (absent)

**School District Liaisons**

Dr. Michael Murphy, Fountain Lake  
Melissa Speers, Jessieville (absent)

**Press**

Lewis Delavan, Village Voice

**Others Present**

Maxine Klein  
Marcie Mermel  
Glenda Arey

**OPENING OF MEETING**

**Call to Order:** Chair Michael Dollar called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

**Introductions:** Jeff Arey, Special Guest Speaker, Saline County Judge

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Jeff Arey, Special Guest Speaker, Saline County Judge

Arey provided a presentation on Train Saline, Stay Saline, Issue 6 on the November ballot

- He spoke about the Saline County Career Technical Education (CTE) Center, which would be funded by Issue 6.

- Arey shared that Study 2020 indicates a need to do a better job on workforce development as a key element of economic growth for Saline County
  - Retain and grow existing business
  - Recruit new business
- The presentation indicated a basic disconnect between Business and Education in identifying and understanding the skills/knowledge needed by workers
- Arey further discussed the Skills Gap that is holding back business and industry today, indicating a growing lack of skilled labor
- The presentation cited Issue 6/the CTE Center as a job creator that would ultimately attract business to Saline County, as a key element to economic growth
- Michael Dollar noted the Village Chamber of Commerce is assisting in outreach to voters via phone, adding that in outreach efforts so far, there were zero negative comments.
- Jeff Arey noted that in their polling efforts, the Village polled the highest positive reaction.
- Comments from various GAC members indicated support of the concept of a Career Tech. Ctr.

### **POA REPORTS**

#### **Governance Report – Bob Cunningham for Tom Weiss**

- The 2019 budget discussions took place at the last Board meeting and the budget will be approved at the coming Board meeting
- Proposal from Jessieville to connect the area around the Boys and Girls Club to the HSV sanitation system is moving forward
- Encouraged everyone to get out and vote on Declarations and Articles

#### **Operational Report – Lesley Nalley**

- The HSV CMP received a 2018 excellence award from Arkansas Chapter of American Planning Assoc.
- Looking into Special Improvement Districts and other options for new funding for economic development projects in the Village

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved as submitted.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the September 7, 2018 meeting were approved.

- Michael Dollar introduced the guests attending the meeting - Maxine Klein, Glenda Arey, Marcie Mermel, Bob Cunningham (for Tom Weiss)
- Asked for any changes to the Committee Reports included in the Agenda packet

### **J.P. COMMENTS**

#### **JP Report Garland County – Larry Griffin**

- It's budget time for the county
- Commented on number of prison inmates who have received additional education and GEDs. 911 Center operational, still work to complete The Garland County Fair begins next week at the Fairgrounds.
- The Garland County 911 call center is now operational although there is still work to do

**JP Report Saline County – No report**

A public involvement meeting is to be held in discuss the revised design plans for Highway 5. The meeting will take place at Gravel Hill Baptist Church on Thursday, September 13th between 4:00-7:00 PM.

**GAC SUB-COMMITTE REPORTS**

**Candidate Forum – Jerry Yeric**

Although the attendance was small, the speakers and questions were very good

**Broadband – Gregg Jones**

Suddenlink has assigned project managers to all 3 projects Greg had requested for the Village

**SPECIAL REQUEST**

Jim Harlow asked to address the GAC. He told the Committee he is moving from the Village after 14 years, including 7 years on the GAC and serving on a number of committees. Michael Dollar and Leslie Nalley expressed appreciation for all of Jim's contributions to the Village over the years.

**REMINDERS AND CALENDAR**

The next GAC meeting will be Friday, November 2, 2018, at 8:00 AM, Ouachita Events Building, Ponce de Leon Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.