

MINUTES

TOURISM EXPENDITURE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Members in Attendance:

Frans N. Mustert, Chairman
Susan Cruse
David Warren
Lanneau Siegling
John Curry
Rod Swaim

Non-Committee Members:

Tom Sponseller, President/CEO
Hospitality Association of SC

Kim Harris – TERC Liaison

Meeting Started – 10:15 am

Minutes from prior meeting – Minutes reviewed and approved

Travel Vouchers – Completed and submitted. David Warren completed and submitted W-4 form.

License Tag Application – Distributed to the Committee members for completion

SC State Ethics Commission Forms – Distributed and completed

Requested Explanation to Questionable Expenditures Letters:

The Committee agreed that Counties and municipalities with questionable expenditures from prior meetings should respond in two weeks from the date on the letter. The majority of the letters were sent on 1-27-03:

Anderson County	City of Aiken
City of Beaufort	City of Greenville
City of Greer	Greenville County
Horry County	Town of Springdale

Georgetown County – Sent a letter to Georgetown County regarding the Habitat for Humanity project. The Committee agreed that it fails to see the relation to tourism and declared that it was unacceptable for A-Tax funds.

Pawley’s Island – Frans agreed to prepare the letter to Mayor Otis.

Pickens County – The County has designated the 30% Advertising and Promotion fund to the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce to publish a countywide brochure. Committee would like to know how the brochure will be used, what is its purpose, and how does it provide for and attract tourists.

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Expenditure Reports not received:

Greenwood County - The Committee agreed to withhold money from Greenwood until report is received. A letter was sent to Mr. Ken Spate regarding this matter.

Expenditure Reports Reviewed:

Susan Cruse/David Warren – Requested further information on the following:

Aiken County	City of Aiken
City of Anderson	City of Beaufort
Berkeley County	City of Columbia
City of Easley	Town of Edisto Beach
City of Florence	County of Greenville
City of Greenville	City of Isles of Palm

Rod Swaim – Requested further information on: Spartanburg County and Dillon County

Lanneau Siegling/John Curry – Requested further information on the following:

Beaufort County	Oconee County
City of Myrtle Beach	Horry County
Laurens County	Town of Mount Pleasant
City of Newberry	County of Orangeburg
Town of Port Royal	Town of Ridgeland
City of Rock Hill	Town of Springdale (used wrong form)
Town of Summerville	

Letter to Ashby Ward - The Committee agreed to submit a letter to Ashby Ward regarding the use of the 65% tourism-related funds to establish a facility. The Committee feels that it would not be the best use of A-Tax funds – may be some duplication or overlapping with other county/city funds.

“Other Business”

1. Member Information List – The list has been updated and distributed to all members of the Committee.

2. Expenditure Report Distribution – The Committee agreed that the assignment of the counties and municipalities should be revised. The Committee members 1) should not review local governments in his or her area and 2) the same city and county should be reviewed by the same member and not reviewed separately.

“Old Business”

Clarendon County – The Committee agreed to inform Paul Jarvis to return the \$4,500.00 back into the general fund due to Clarendon County’s failure to comply with Section 6-4-25 (D)(3) and failure to respond to the Committee’s correspondence.

City of Hardeeville – The Committee agreed to inform Paul Jarvis to return the \$2,000.00 in A-Tax funds back into the general fund due to the City of Hardeeville’s failure to comply with Section 6-4-25 (D)(3) and failure to respond to the Committee’s correspondence.

Discussion Topics:

1. The Committee agreed that transportation of Hotel Staff provided by a bus company for hotel staff that live 40 miles or more from the hotel is not an appropriate use of A-Tax funds.
2. The Committee agreed that education for hospitality employees regarding tourist areas is not an appropriate use of A-Tax funds.
3. SC Governor’s Conference – The Committee discussed taking a part in the SC Governor’s Conference on Tourism & Travel in Greenville, South Carolina on Feb. 6, 2003.

Meeting Adjourned – 3:20 pm