

## **Morris County Collaborative Minutes from September 2, 2025**

### **Members Present:**

**Greg Frazier**                      **Joe Austin**                      **Daryl Martin**                      **Carolyn Traylor**  
**Billy Harmon**                      **Charlie Young**                      **Maudie Peters**                      **Margine Mims (phone)**  
**Beverly Austin**                      **David Mims (zoom)**                      **Brandi Cave – NTCC Fiscal Agent**

**Absent: Jerri Chism**      **Edwin Mims, Jr.**

### **Overview**

- Meeting started with procedural approval of agenda, addressing initial confusion over minutes from the August 5th meeting.
- Greg Abrams quoted a mediation cost of \$9,000/day from Dallas ADR with no responses from two other contacted mediators.
- David Mims committed to organizational success, emphasizing the need for transparency and communication among board members.
- Discussion centered on appropriate titles for leadership roles, referencing bylaws concerning the president's powers and the need for third-party facilitation.
- Board appointed David Mims as Chairman Pro Tem with full presidential authority, confirming a unanimous vote from Ms. Mims, Joe, Daryl, and Charlie.
- Bylaws dictate a maximum of six consecutive years for directors; issues arose with term expirations for Greg Frazier and Maudie Peters.
- David Mims proposed a vision for MCC focused on measurable community impact rather than internal conflicts, promoting outreach to stakeholders.
- HOGG Foundation approved \$400/month reimbursement for Joe's youth initiatives starting May 14, with additional funding queries for youth committee activities.
- Ms. Mims highlighted the importance of unity and community focus, sharing personal changes during the closing remarks.
- Overall, the meeting addressed critical governance issues, including leadership roles, board terms, community engagement, and financial approvals.

### **Order of Business:**

#### **Opening Ceremonies – Call to Order, Opening Prayer, Roll Call**

- Meeting called to order at 5:36 PM with opening prayer by Joe Austin.
- Lisa York appointed as Secretary Pro Tem via separate motion.
- Motion made by Joe Austin to accept and approve revised agenda sent out by Lisa York on 9/1/2025. Motion carried.
- Bylaws distributed to board members

#### **President, Vice President, Office Manager Reports:**

President: Greg Frazier – He had a copy of the Bylaws if anyone wanted to see it

Vice President: Absent

Office Manager: Lisa York - Appreciation expressed from Business Professional Women's group for building use.

#### **Discussion and Action Items:**

##### **1. Obtaining a Third Party mediator**

- Beverly Austin reported that Greg Abrams quoted \$9,000 per day for mediation services from Dallas ADR (Texas Academy of Distinguished Neutrals).

- Two other potential mediators contacted but did not return calls.
- David Mims discussed his commitment to helping the organization succeed while acknowledging potential fit concerns.
- David emphasized transparency and consistent communication with all board members about his intentions.
- Lisa York appointed as Secretary Pro Tem via separate motion. Mr Martin made a motion to appoint Ms. York as Secretary Pro Tem. Mr. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

**Chairman Pro Tem vs. Mediator Discussion:**

- Lengthy discussion about appropriate title: 'mediator' vs. 'chairman pro tem' based on MCC bylaws.
- Bylaws Article 16, page 8 referenced for president's powers and duties, including chairman pro tem provisions.
- HOGG Foundation directive from July 17th mentioned requiring 'third party consultant to facilitate or mediate'.
- Board members expressed frustration about repeatedly seeking Hogg Foundation approval for internal decisions.
- Ms. Mims voiced concerns about recurring conflicts and decision-making delays.

**Consideration of David Mims as the third-party mediator**

- Motion withdrawn for item #2 (third party mediator) but motion made in favor of item #3 **Chairman Pro Tem.**
- Motion passed 4-1 Motion carried with no objections, no dissents, and no discussion to appoint David Mims as **Chairman Pro Tem** with full presidential authority under MCC bylaws. Mr. Frazier stated that David Mims as Chairman ProTem, would execute governance documentation over the board restructure while also serving in the capacity of the facilitator as required by the Hogg Foundation.
- Voting members: Ms. Mims, Joe, Daryl, and Charlie confirmed votes.

**2. Confirmation of Expired Terms and Non-Voting Status:**

- Bylaws Section 304 cited: directors serve 3-year terms until successors are elected and qualified, maximum 6 years consecutive.
- Ms. Mims referenced historical bylaw changes dating back to 1995 and organizational restructuring needs.
- Greg Frazier and Maudie Peters identified as having expired terms, though Maudie indicated intent to seek legal counsel before stepping down.
- Greg expressed willingness to step aside for organizational restructuring while maintaining support Maudie Peters asked to read under section 304, (referring from MCC Bylaws), election in terms of directors that a director will hold office for term of three years or until his successor has been elected and qualified. Directors may serve consecutive terms but serve no longer than two extra years. Discussion followed.
- Joe Austin – made a motion to accept that according to the By-laws of April 16, 2024, that President Greg Frazier's term has expired; and Maudie Peters term has also expired and is no longer a board member. Joe Austin making the motion. Mr. Martin seconded. Motion carried. Ms. Peters attempted to abstain; however, as her term has expired, she was not eligible to vote and her statement was not recorded as part of the vote.
- Greg inquired if any other board members' seats have expired. Joe Austin responded that Charlie Young's term had expired August of 2025.

**Vision and Community Focus**

- David Mims outlined vision for MCC as community-focused organization with measurable programs and outcomes.
- Emphasized need for data-driven results and community impact rather than internal board conflicts.

- Discussion of MCC's 'monopoly' position for Morris County funding and programming opportunities.
- Greg advocated for David to reach out directly to community members and stakeholders.

#### **Financial and Administrative Items**

- \$400/month reimbursement approved by Hogg Foundation for Joe's youth initiatives beginning May 14th.
- Table purchase for youth banquet event requires formal agenda approval for reimbursement.
- \$4,000 budget previously approved for youth committee activities, question raised about table expense inclusion.
- Discussion of continuing marketing and website responsibilities during transition.

#### **Closing Encouragement and Prayer**

- Ms. Mims encouraged unity and community focus, sharing personal challenges and prayer requests.
- Closing prayer Ms. Mims emphasizing organizational blessing and community service.

#### **Follow up to Action items:**

##### **David Mims**

- Contact HOGG Foundation to confirm acceptance of Chairman Pro Tem designation and clarify any requirements
- Begin organizational restructuring process with full presidential authority under MCC bylaws
- Reach out to community members and stakeholders to discuss vision and plans for MCC

##### **Lisa York**

- Document meeting minutes reflecting new appointments and decisions
- Research and provide documentation of \$4,000 youth committee budget approval for expense reimbursement

##### **Joe**

- Provide receipts and documentation for youth banquet table expense for board approval and reimbursement

#### **Unfinished Business:**

No motion to approve minutes of August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Will be moved to September 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

No motion to approve minutes of August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Will be moved to September 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

***Minutes recorded by Firefly AI and transcribed by Lisa York, Secretary Pro Tem***

***September 9, 2025.***