

**HARRISON COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
JANUARY 6, 2009**

The Harrison County Tourism Commission met Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., at its office located at 11975 Seaway Road, Gulfport, MS.

Commissioners Present: Beverly Martin, president; Kenneth Montana, vice president; Rip Daniels secretary; Drew Allen, treasurer; Wilma Rizzardi; Gary Ponthieux; Greg Van Stone

Commissioners Absent: Nicky Creel; Judge Danny Guice

HCTC Staff Members Present: Richard Forester, executive director; Nicole Learson, director, marketing; Crystal Johnson, director, sales; Janice Jones, manager, public relations; Traci Dauro, manager

Others Present: Hugh Keating, legal counsel; Linda Hornsby & Bob Bennett, MS Hotel & Lodging Assn; Laura Hasty, Reed Guice, the Big Three; Kristi Bennett, Airport Authority; Skip Negrotto, Mambo-cue, Pass Christian; James Crowell, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration; Kenny Glavan, Holiday Inn Gardens; Rosie Lowe & Fallon Atlas, Marriott Residence; Kit Musgrove, Shular Company

President Martin called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Montana made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Public Agenda

Linda Hornsby, MS Hotel & Lodging Assn, briefed the Commission on the November 2008 hotel occupancy report. Some properties report a lot of military business over the past couple of months, but still very slow.

Bob Bennett, MS Hotel & Lodging Assn informed the Commission that he was elected President of the state association.

Kristi Bennett reported on the Allegiant Air only operating as a charter service now and that Air Tran ended there service to the Coast Monday, January 5, 2009. The Airport is planning the Air Service Summit for the end of April.

James Crowell, MLK Celebration reported that at last year's event there where between 10,000 – 12,000 people in attendance. They will conduct the survey this year as requested by the Commission.

<i>Beverly Martin</i> <i>President</i>	<i>Kenneth Montana</i> <i>Vice President</i>	<i>Drew Allen</i> <i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Rip Daniels</i> <i>Secretary</i>	<i>Hugh Keating</i> <i>Legal Counsel</i>	<i>Richard Forester</i> <i>Executive Director</i>
<i>Nicky Creel</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Danny Guice</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Gary Ponthieux</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Wilma Rizzardi</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Greg Van Stone</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Bill Holmes</i> <i>Ex-Officio</i>

## Minutes

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 16, 2008 meeting as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Commissioner Montana reported on the Events Committee meeting held Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> with the following recommendation:

Commissioner Montana made the motion to approve the sponsorship of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration, being held January 19, 2009 in the amount of \$12,500. Seconded by Commissioner Daniels, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

## Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Allen reported the January 6, 2009, disbursements as follows: check disbursements for 01/06/09--\$155,558.01; total travel advance/reimbursements for December 2008 -- \$5,063.37; grand total disbursements--\$160,621.38. Commissioner Allen moved these disbursements be approved. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Commissioner Rizzardi presented Skip Negrotto with a check in the amount of \$3,000 for the first Mambo-cue to be held in Pass Christian on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Daniels presented James Crowell with a check in the amount of \$12,500 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration to be held the weekend of January 17 – 19, 2009.

## Old Business

Commissioner Ponthieux made the motion to approve the 2009 Harrison County Tourism Commission meeting dates as provided. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Madam President requested any Commissioner planning to attend the SeaTrade Cruise Shipping Conference held in Miami, FL on March 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> that registration opened December 29<sup>th</sup> and if you are interested please contact Traci Dauro. Mr. Forester will also verify that the Port will also attend.

New Business - None

Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Keating has received the settlement agreement and release of all claims with covenants from the Hotel New Orleans, and is requesting Commission to approve.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion authorizing the Commission President to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release from the Hotel New Orleans. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Mr. Keating also received a request from a local publisher to use the wording from the Tourism Commission's [www.gulfcoast.org](http://www.gulfcoast.org) website from the history page. There is not a copy right clause, so as long as the publisher credits the Commission there should not be a problem.

HCTC Reports

Nicole Learson, director, Marketing Department  
Marketing report for November 2008

**Marketing**

- Worked on the SimpleView conversion worksheets and sent images and ads for web site design
- Finished work on Calendar of Events on website and for December printing
- Added 18 new coupons to website and renewed 1 that were expiring at the end of October; 1 coupon was not renewed
- Mailed 114 inquiry packets as a result of email and phone requests; 40 assists with hotel accommodations
- Updated website listings and added new businesses and restaurants
- Conducted survey with some local marketing partners on tourist information display racks and distribution
- Collateral inventory: Map Pads (16 boxes); Rack Brochures (16 boxes); Pocket Folders (30 boxes); Destination Planners (615 boxes)

**Advertising**

- Ads Produced: SEC Program ad, radio spot and web banner (December); Gaming South ad (December); Points North Atlanta ad (December); FSN TV Spot (December/January)

**Media Relations**

- Created Mardi Gras FAM invitee list and updated contact information
- Prepared press kits for IAEE

- Nancy Jackson, American Spirit, asked how Fort Massachusetts got named. Their story is to appear in the January issue
- Brooke Porter, Go Magazine, researching side bar items of interest
- Garry Boulard, Daily Journal of Commerce, requested images of Biloxi after speaking with Nicole
- Dorothy White, SportsEvents, advertorial request for December issue
- Jim Couper, freelance writer, requested information for a possible site visit early February

#### **Media Relations**

- Richard Smith, freelance writer, requested information on an old bridge in Harrison County, was invited for the Mardi Gras FAM
- Myra Beckman, Southern Breeze, requested information on Christmas on the Water

The following FAMS were held in the October:

- Golf Digest, October 27 – hosted dinner at Mary Mahoney’s for Dan Shepherd and Golf Digest editor Peter Finch

The following releases were issued in November:

- November Coast Tourism Works
- The Big 3 to steer the Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau Ad Campaign

The following were results of media contact:

- Angie Baldwin, Convention South, interviewed Nicole November 6
- Marcia Bradford-Strong, Sports Events Magazine, phone interview with Nicole November 20
- Phoebe Judge, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, interviewed Nicole on holiday travel trends, November 26
- Martin Covert, Times Picayune, printed portions of the Open for Business press release and interviewed Richard, September 17
- Corporate Meetings & Incentives October 2008, *SiteFiles The Mid-South States*, printed updated information on the Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, Courtyard Marriott – Gulfport Beachfront, Airport updates with Hilton Garden Inn Hotel and Residence Inn.

Richard Forester, Executive Director

Commissioner Montana made the motion to approve the request to use Incentive Funds for the National Rural Letter Carriers Association - 2014 NRLCA Annual Meeting - August 5 – 17, 2014 -5,581 room nights - 3,000 attendees in the amount of up to \$25,000. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Mr. Forester discussed plans for the Legislative Luncheon and Reception being held Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, passed out the new Tourism Development Grant /Event Survey that every organization which request fund will receive.

Bill Holmes, MCCCC, ex-officio - Absent

#### Executive Session

Commissioner Allen made the motion to ENTER Closed Session to discuss the need for an Executive Session to discuss personnel items. Seconded by Commissioner Daniels, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----Yes

Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Commissioner Ponthieux made the motion to ENTER into Executive Session, to discuss personnel items. Seconded by Commissioner Montana, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to RECONVENE from Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

Legal Counsel reported No Action was taken, reports only.

Madam President passed out the new Committee assignments to reflect the re-organization of the Commission. The Commission is going from 13 Committees to 7 which include the following:

- Executive Committee
  - This committee will encompass finance & budget; personnel, bylaws and legislative.
    - Committee members are the HCTC current officers: Beverly Martin, Ken Montana, Rip Daniels and Drew Allen
- Advertising Committee
  - This committee will encompass advertising, events and sports marketing, and convention and tourism marketing.
    - Committee members are: Rip Daniels, Chair. Nicky Creel, Gary Ponthieux and Ken Montana.
- Nominations and Awards
  - This committee will remain the same.
    - Committee members are: Nicky Creel, Chair. Drew Allen, Greg VanStone, and Danny Guice.
- Review and Grants Committee
  - This committee will be responsible for reviewing all grant and sponsorship requests that come into the HCTC.
    - Committee members are: Ken Montana, Chair. Beverly Martin, Greg VanStone, and Wilma Rizzardi.
- Visitor Center / Experience Task Force
  - This committee will be responsible for obtaining visitor center sites and locations. While currently listed as a task force, I expect this committee to become permanent

once visitor centers are established and be responsible for the update to the centers with brochures, etc.

- Committee Members are: Wilma Rizzardi, Chair. Danny Guice, Bill Holmes (non-voting), and Nicky Creel.
  - Office Relocation Committee Task Force
    - This will be a temporary committee responsible for the transition to the new HCTC offices.
      - Committee members are: Rip Daniels, Chair. Gary Ponthieux, Drew Allen, Bill Holmes (non-voting) and Beverly Martin.
  - Policy Task Force
    - This is a temporary committee which will be eliminated once the policy manual has been reviewed and revamped, as needed.
      - Committee members are: Gary Ponthieux, chair. Danny Guice, Wilma Rizzardi, and Greg VanStone.
- This will be included in the Official Minutes.

Reminders:

1. Legislative Luncheon & Reception – Jackson, MS – January 7<sup>th</sup>  
Luncheon starts at 11:30 – Old Capital building and Reception starts at 5:30 at the Trade Mart Center
2. Office Closed – Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King, Jr
3. HCTC meeting – Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 pm

Staff travel

1. Janet Harrington – American Bus Association – Charlotte, NC – January 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>
2. Susan McKnight – Assn of Convention Operators – New Orleans – January 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>
3. Crystal Johnson – PCMA – New Orleans – January 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>
4. Linda Stewart – HealthCare Convention – Boston, MA – January 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>
5. Mike Moore – Atlanta Travel Expo – Atlanta, GA – January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
6. Richard Forester – St. Louis Travel Show – January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 2<sup>nd</sup>
7. Annette Rand – North American Journey – Los Angeles, CA – February 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>
8. Linda Stewart – MPI – Atlanta, GA – February 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>
9. Annette Rand – RSAA – Jersey City, NJ – February 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>
10. Richard Forester, Nicole Learson, Annette Rand – MTA Governor's Conf on Tourism – Hattiesburg, MS – February 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

Madam President reported that a Special meeting will be held Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 1:30 pm to discuss the proposed advertising marketing plan being presented to the Advertising Committee Monday, January 12, 2009.

Commissioner Montana moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----Absent
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 6, 2009.

**HARRISON COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**OFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 13, 2009**

The Harrison County Tourism Commission met Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., at its office located at 11975 Seaway Road, Gulfport, MS.

Commissioners Present: Beverly Martin, president; Kenneth Montana, vice president; Drew Allen, treasurer; Rip Daniels, secretary; Judge Danny Guice; Wilma Rizzardi; Gary Ponthieux; Greg Van Stone; Bill Holmes, ex-officio

Commissioners absent: Nicky Creel

HCTC Staff Members Present: Richard Forester, executive director; Nicole Learson, director, marketing; Crystal Johnson, director, sales; Janice Jones, manager, public relations; Traci Dauro, manager

Others Present: Je'Nell Blum, legal counsel; Laura Hasty, Reed Guice, the Big Three; Mary Perez, the Sun Herald; Kevin Drum, MS Gulf Coast Golf Assn

Commissioner Martin called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Montana made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Ponthieux, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Allen reported the January 13, 2009, disbursements as follows: check disbursements for 01/13/09--\$135,635.10; grand total disbursements--\$135,635.10. Commissioner Montana moved these disbursements be approved. Seconded by Commissioner Allen, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Old Business

Madam President moved this item to the Executive Session -Internal Reorganization

New Business

Commissioner Montana handed out copies of newspaper advertisements from Howard County Tourism.

Commissioner Montana made the motion authorizing legal counsel to prepare a Resolution supporting the proposed legislation to start all schools reopening after the forth week in August to help promote tourism with a later school start date. Seconded by Commissioner Guice, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

#### HCTC Reports

Commissioner Daniels reported on the Advertising Committee meeting held Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> with the following recommendations:

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to include the report as part of the official minutes for the Harrison County Tourism Commission as provided. Seconded by Commissioner Allen, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Reports received on the following items:

- MS Gulf Coast Sports Commission
- Mardi Gras 2009 Fam
- Advertising placements all are full page 4 color total placement as approved in budget is \$23,626.60 including commission:
- 2009 MS Society of Association Executives – Directory
  - Black Meeting & Tourism
  - Alabama Council of Assn Executives
  - LA Society of Association Executives Directory
  - National Tour Association – Courier
  - GA Society of Assn Executives

Commissioner Montana made the motion to approve the Spring 2009 - 30 second co-op television/web campaign, production and agency commission included to produce a 30 second commercial in the estimated cost of \$126, 508.75. Also, approved any up front disbursements necessary for project. Seconded by Commissioner Guice, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Executive Session

Commissioner Allen made the motion to ENTER Closed Session to discuss the need for an Executive Session to discuss personnel items. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to ENTER into Executive Session, to discuss personnel items. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to RECONVENE from Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, the president called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

Legal Counsel reported No Action was taken, reports only.

Commissioner Montana made the motion to approve the internal re-structuring of the Harrison County Tourism Commission staff as presented, and also accepting the recommendation of the Executive Director to hold Tourism Commission meetings once a month with the schedule provided. Seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted ----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted ----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted ----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.

### Reports

Richard Forester, executive director

- Will meet with staff to go over re-organization
- The Port will be attending SeaTrade, and will help invite representatives to a hospitality function. Will also invite the members of the Board of Supervisors.

Bill Holmes, executive director, MCCCC

- Office Relocation task force has set a meeting for January 27<sup>th</sup> at the center
- Convention center renovations are going as scheduled
- The second floor plumbing and stubs are up and ready

### Reminders

1. Office Closed – Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King, Jr
2. Office Relocation Task Force – Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm – Eley Guild Hardy office – Commissioners Daniels; Allen; Martin; Ponthieux; Holmes
3. HCTC meeting – Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 pm

### Staff travel

1. Linda Stewart – HealthCare Convention – Boston, MA – January 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>
2. Mike Moore – Atlanta Travel Expo – Atlanta, GA – January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
3. Richard Forester – St. Louis Travel Show – January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 2<sup>nd</sup>
4. Annette Rand – North American Journey – Los Angeles, CA – February 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>
5. Linda Stewart – MPI – Atlanta, GA – February 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>
6. Annette Rand – RSAA – Jersey City, NJ – February 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>
7. Richard Forester, Nicole Learson, Annette Rand – MTA Governor's Conf on Tourism – Hattiesburg, MS – February 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

Commissioner Montana moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Commissioner Guice, the president called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Allen	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Creel	Voted -----	Absent
Commissioner Daniels	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Guice	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Montana	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Rizzardi	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Ponthieux	Voted -----	Yes
Commissioner Van Stone	Voted -----	Yes

The motion having been duly made, seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Commission, the president declared the motion adopted January 13, 2009.