



Board of Directors Regular Meeting

February 24, 2023

MEETING BRIEFING

The SODA Board of Directors met for its regular bi-monthly meeting on February 24, 2023 at Murray State College in Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

Texoma Health Foundation Grant

The SODA Board of Directors accepted a \$10,000 grant from the Texoma Health Foundation to provide two Mobile Smiles dental clinics in Bryan and Marshall Counties. The dates for the dental clinics are not yet scheduled.

SODA Membership Dues Increase

The SODA Board of Directors adopted a 3-year plan to increase membership dues from the current \$0.25 per person (times the population) to \$0.50 per person (times the population). For FY 24 the rate for membership dues for city and county members will be \$0.30; for FY 25 the rate will be \$0.40; and for FY 26 the rate will be \$0.50. The rates are capped at under \$10,000 per year for cities and counties in SODA with larger populations. Conservation District members will pay a flat fee of \$450 for FY 24, \$475 for FY 25, and \$500 for FY 26. There is no record of SODA ever enacting an increase in dues from the current \$0.25 per person population.

Membership dues allow SODA to invest in new or expanded programs for our communities by strengthening its financial capability to leverage grants and contracts for new programs.

Grant Applications/New Programs

SODA has submitted a \$1.5 million grant application to the US Dept. of Transportation for a planning grant to develop the Southeastern Oklahoma Multimodal Transportation Plan. If awarded, the project will form a transportation planning district that includes the regions of SODA and KEDDO covering 17 counties in the southeastern quadrant of Oklahoma.

SODA has submitted a grant application to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to help fund a Mobility Management program that would serve Atoka, Bryan, Coal and Johnston Counties. An ODOT contract will fund 80% of the cost of the project with a 20% match requested from grant proceeds. Mobility Management is an innovative approach for managing and delivering coordinated transportation services, especially for older adults and people with disabilities.

SODA Legislative Priorities

SODA held its annual Legislative Reception/Breakfast on January 20 at Murray State College with 50 people in attendance. Legislators in attendance were Speaker of the House Charles McCall, Rep. Josh Cantrell, Rep. Justin Humphrey, Rep. Cody Maynard, and Rep. Tammy Townley. Congressman Tom Cole and Congressman Josh Brecheen had field representatives at the meeting.

The COGs are requesting an increase in REAP funding to \$4 million to each COG region for a total of \$44 million (up from \$30 million for this year) and \$100,000 to each COG to maintain its Rural Fire Defense program for a total of \$1.1 million (up from \$800,000 for this year).

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SODA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DIRECTOR NAME

Sammie Adams
Gary Ayers
Scott Chaney
Cacy Cribbs (Secretary/Treasurer)
Johnnie Crutchfield
Danny Delay
Kit Dinwiddie
James Eldridge
Rick Ellis
Mike Foster
James Fullingim
Johnny Jump
Ricky Harness
Darrell Hudson
Linda Hyman (Past President)
Sally Jantz
Jon Fortner
Lee Litterell
Kristi McElroy (Vice President)
Joe David McReynolds (President)
Don "Salty" Melton
Diane Niblett
Ian O'Neal
Brandon Carr
John Redman
Ethan Settlemire
Gary Starns
Bob Stick
Lisa Taylor
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant

AFFILIATION

Bryan Co. Conservation District
Garvin County
City of Marietta
Johnston County
Arbuckle Conservation District
City of Atoka
Love Co. Conservation District
City of Ada
Coal Co. Conservation District
Garvin Co. Conservation District
City of Madill
City of Coalgate
City of Davis
Murray County
Love County
City of Healdton
Coal County
City of Pauls Valley
City of Ardmore
Carter County
Marshall County
Johnston Co. Conservation District
City of Lone Grove
Bryan County
Choctaw Nation
Atoka County
Pontotoc County
Chickasaw Nation
City of Durant
City of Calera
City of Lindsay
City of Sulphur
City of Tishomingo

*The next SODA Board of Directors regularly scheduled meeting is
April 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Oak Hills Country Club in Ada.*

*Visit the SODA website for more information about
SODA programs and services at www.soda-ok.org.*

