



Staff Report

Meeting Date: Sept. 16, 2025
Meeting Type: City Council

To: City Council
From: Council Member Lewis
Item Title: Hancock County Tourism Questions

Questions:

Does the board have records/minutes from the monthly board meetings where the revenue and expense reports were reviewed dating back from FY 22 to current? If so, please provide those minutes and/or the balance sheets.

In speaking with the Director of Cruising the Coast (CTC), Woody Bailey, he informed me Hancock County Tourism began defaulting on payments for 2022, 2023 and part of 2024. What is the total amount owed to CTC for the money received from the city of Bay Saint Louis? What was the allocated \$20k annually from the city of Bay St. Louis spent on during the default period (2022-2024)?

The Director of Cruising the Coast stated he met with the board prior to the passing of Ms. Myrna Green which was December of 2024 to inform them of the payment default. When was the board made aware of the payment default to CTC? What was the board's action on the non-payment? Who was informed of the non-payment? The city paid Hancock County Tourism on a monthly basis, once the board was made aware of CTC not receiving the city funds, what was the monthly allocation from the city spent on once notified.

Hancock County Tourism hosted Wednesday night in the park and received an in-kind donation of free rent of the depot grounds from the city council in April of 2025 and thereafter monthly. Were funds raised for these events through sponsorships and what was the amount of funds raised? How were these funds spent?

What is the outstanding debt for Hancock County Tourism? How is the debt being paid?

Recommendation: Discussion

Attachments: