



Minutes

Visit Bastrop Board Meeting

**Bastrop Convention Center
1408 Chestnut St.
Bastrop, TX 78602**

Wednesday February 26th at 9:00 a.m.

The Visit Bastrop Board of Directors convened a meeting on Wednesday, February 26th at 9:00 a.m. The following voting Board members who were: Present = (X), Zoom = (Z), Absent (A)

Lee Harle (X)	Irby Morvant (Z)	Jessica Upton (X)
Alex Henley (X)	Robert Kraft (X)	Wesley Dills (A)
Heather Young-Lira (X)	Harrison Wood (X)	Barbara Caldwell (X)
Amy Bailey (A)		

Ex officio members: Becki Womble (X), Adena Lewis (X), Michaela Joyce (X)

Staff/guests: Mike Pistana (X), Ashton LaFuente (X), Stephanie Doradea (X)

I. **CALL TO ORDER – Lee Harle**

Lee Harle called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

II. **OPEN FORUM – Citizens Comments (9:09 a.m.)**

No citizens were present.

III. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Lee Harle (9:09 a.m.)**

- a. October 3 Meeting Minutes - motion to approve, none opposed.
- b. November 18 Meeting Minutes – motion to approve, none opposed.
- c. January 29 Meeting Minutes – motion to approve, none opposed.

IV. **FINANCIAL UPDATE – Mike Pistana (9:11a.m.)**

- a) Discussed of January deficit due to February deposit.
- b) Discussion of 2023 audit approval
- c) Budget reallocation discussion
- d) Discussion about seeking new auditor
 - a. CEO recommends Maxwell, Locke & Ritter after multiple bids
 - b. No objections
- e) Budget issues of 35% being closer to 25%
- f) \$75k being included in budget as opposed to in addition to budget
 - a. Group incentives
- g) Played video of City Manager from February 25, 2025, city council meeting stating Visit Bastrop funds are “astronomical”

- V. STAFF REPORTS – Ashton Lafuente (10:10a.m.)**
a) Website traffic report
b) Hotel revenue report – Q1 2024 vs. 2025 (trending up)
c) Mardis Gras metrics 2024 vs. 2025 (trending up)

VI. HOT APPLICATION FOR CORVETTE INVASION – Lee Harle (10:42a.m.)

Tabled for next board meeting by Lee Harle

VII. BASTROP MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL PROPOSAL – Lee Harle (10:43a.m.)

Entire board decided to postpone the festival until Spring 2026

VIII. SECTOR UPDATES – POSTPONED – Lee Harle (11:54a.m.)

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSTPONED – Lee Harle (11:54a.m.)

X. BOARD MEMBER NOMINEE – Lee Harle (11:55a.m.)

Alex Henley nominated Heather Lyons, and Robert Kraft was the second. The board made a unanimous vote to approve.

XI. ADJOURN– Lee Harle (11:57a.m.)

A motion was made by Barbara Caldwell to adjourn the meeting of February 26th, 2025, and Harrison Wood was the second.

Minutes recorded by Alex Henley February 26th, 2025