

OKLAHOMA SPACE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority is resolved to be aggressive, deliberate and forceful in the planning and development of spaceport facilities, launch systems and projects and to successfully promote and stimulate the creation of space commerce, education and all aerospace related industries in Oklahoma.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Bill Khourie

GOVERNANCE:

Members of the Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority (OSIDA) Board are Governor Appointees and include Mr. Jack Bonny, Mr. Robert J. Conner, Mr. Robert Cox, Mr. James Cunningham, Mr. J.T. Edwards, Mr. R. Allan Goodbary, and Mr. Donald J. Wetekam.

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

There is an attendance policy for OSIDA Board Members and it is in place and being followed. Three consecutive absences is justification for dismissal of a board member.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

The agency entered into a Firm Fixed Price Contract for Spaceport maintenance which includes the Aerospace Industrial Airpark, waste water and waste water distribution system. The contract was cancelled three years ago after exploring cost cutting options by using Department of Correction workers and our own maintenance staff to manage and maintain of the facility. The action resulted in an annual savings in excess of 60% the first year.

CORE MISSION:

What services are you required to provide which are outside of your core mission? Are any services you provide duplicated or replicated by another agency? Are there services which are core to your mission which you are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere?

The spaceport facility consists of 2700 acres that was once a Strategic Air Command Base that supported over 6,000 personnel and incorporated the infrastructure of a small city.

Maintenance of the facility was initially felt to be an added component that would need to be dealt with by another agency but it proved to be extremely costly and inefficient. It initially made the core mission very difficult due to a very small staff, at times only two, and the lack of specialized training, however, we overcame the major obstacles and developed a basic maintenance plan that has been very effective and extremely cost effective.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

Are any of the services which are performed by the agency also performed in the private sector in Oklahoma? In other states? Has the agency been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency?

It appears that outside services exist that could provide maintenance functions but we have tried that approach and it was not effective and found to be extremely costly. With regards to operating a Federally Licensed Launch Site, (Spaceport), a foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation has not approached the agency with proposals to privatize the spaceport facility. Privatization of the spaceport would result in the state losing the spaceport due to Federal Aviation Administration requirements associated with the license issued to the Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority.