

# The BAY

Dedicated March 29, 2019



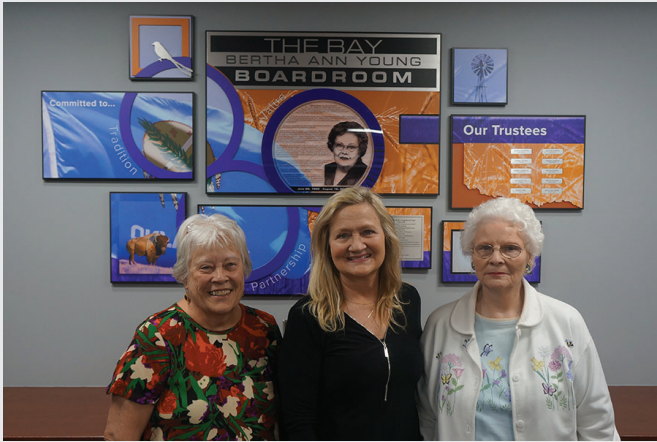
On April 28, 2017, the OkMRF Board of Trustees passed Resolution 2017-2 to commend Bertha Ann Young for her true commitment to serve with utmost integrity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Trustees of the Oklahoma Municipal Retirement Fund that we express our extreme and deepest appreciation to Bertha Ann for her many years of exemplary public service to the Oklahoma Municipal Retirement Fund by honoring her in perpetuity and dedicating this Board room forevermore “The BAY” and declaring that her presence and service to the Board of Trustees will be sincerely missed.





OkMRF Trustees: From Left, Back: Jim Luckett, Jr, Joe Don Dunham, Hollis "Ed" Tinker, Robert Park, Timothy Rooney and Robert Johnston; Front: Tamera Johnson, Donna Doolen and Melissa Reames



Bertha Ann Young Family Members Present: From Left, Carolyn Miller, Cyndie Davidson and Penelope Smith



City of Shawnee Representatives: From Left, Former employees, colleagues and friends of Bertha Ann Young: Lisa Moody, Karen Drain, Rhonda Masquat, Randy Swinson (former OkMRF Trustee) and Tamara Johnson (current OkMRF Trustee)



OkMRF Staff: From Left, Linda Ruckman, Gloria Cudjoe, Lindsay Porter, Jodi Cox, Chris Whatley, Katie Girardi, Jody Elliott, Rhnea Stewart and Catherine McCartney

Bertha Ann Young was born to John and Lydia Young on June, 22, 1928, in Eastland Texas. Bertha Ann began serving the citizens of Shawnee as a cashier in the water department on August 9, 1948, and retired after fifty-one years of loyal service as the City Treasurer/Finance Director on August 31, 1999. She dedicated her life to Shawnee City Hall and loved her work, colleagues, friends and of course Shawnee.

In 1978, Bertha Ann Young was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Municipal Retirement Fund (OkMRF). She held this post for thirty-nine years and retired from the Board on April 28, 2017. Notably, she served as Board Secretary for thirty-seven of those years. Bertha Ann's devotion to her fiduciary duty impacted thousands of lives and will perpetually enable municipal employees statewide to retire well.

Bertha Ann was a long-standing member and past president of Shawnee BPW and served many years in Shawnee Kiwanis, the Historical Society, and her favorite, the SURA Board.

Bertha Ann loved her municipal work and wanted to share and mentor others. During that time, she virtually earned all of the professional certifications available for clerks and treasurers. She served on the State Commission for Training City Clerks, Treasurers and Finance Officers and became a certified municipal clerk and municipal finance administrator. In addition, she was actively involved in several professional associations and served at different times as president of: the Oklahoma Chapter of GFOA; Oklahoma Treasurers Association; Governmental Finance Officers Association of Oklahoma and Oklahoma Association of Municipal Clerks, Treasurers and Financial Officials (OMCTFOA).

She recalled attending the first ever Clerks Conference and there were only a few of maybe 25. Bertha Ann stated in her own words, "Still today, the conference is such a great foundation for learning for clerks, treasurers - both old and new. We found a place to network, to learn, to share and to grow. I remember when we first offered scholarships to new clerks who could not afford to come. I would always try to make sure that each attendee felt welcome and received the valuable training." She added, "It's hard to look back and name just a few favorite memories. But I do know that my life was impacted by what all I learned and did at city hall, and I sincerely hope that a few of my actions have helped others along the way."

In 2005 Bertha Ann Young was inducted to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame for City and Town Officials. She was humbled and honored to be joining such a notable group. The Master of Ceremonies read this at her induction: "Bertha Ann Young achieved an unprecedented career of integrity, leadership, professional development and support for the appointed and elected officers and employees involved in municipal government."