



**ORANGE COUNTY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION**

**MINUTES**

**February 13, 2017**

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 3:00pm, Monday, February 13, 2017

**Members Present:**

Dan Mohon, City of Pinehurst  
Mayor Cathy Nagel, City of Pine Forest  
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange  
Judge Brint Carlton, Orange County  
Dr. Michael Shahan, Lamar State College Orange  
Jay Trahan, City of Orange  
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies  
Commissioner Barry Burton, Pct. 2  
Carl Thibodeaux, City of West Orange

**Members Absent:**

Ida Schossow, GOACC  
Stan Mathews, Sabine River Authority  
Robbie Hood, City of Pinehurst  
Mike Kunst, City of Vidor  
Gene Bouillion, Port of Orange  
Jerry Jones, City of Bridge City  
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange  
Mike Kunst, City of Vidor  
Dr. Stephen Patterson, Orangefield ISD  
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services  
Alan Sanders, Attorney

**Others Present:**

Jessica Hill, Executive Director

Official Notice of the meeting detailing the time, date, place and purpose (Agenda), was posted in the Orange County Court house and Orange County Administration Building on February 9, 2017.

1. **Convene Meeting.** President Carlton opened the meeting at 3:04 pm.
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Member Mohon led the invocation. Member Stelly led the pledge, followed by the roll call by President Carlton.
3. **Recognize Guests.**  
There were no guests in attendance.
4. **Open the floor to members of the public or of the Board of Directors of the Governing authority for inquiries about a subject not listed on the Agenda.** Speakers shall be requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes or less. Specific factual information, or existing policy, may be stated in response to an inquiry. Any Deliberation or decision about the subject of **the inquirer shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the Agenda** for a subsequent Regular or Special Board Meeting.

Judge Carlton gave an update on the town hall meeting held January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Convention and Expo Center regarding the issue of a hospital district. The meeting was very well attended with close to 200 at each session. The appropriate information was disclosed and questions were answered to the best ability of the Commissioners and Judge. Ongoing conversation was had related to the petition process, jurisdiction, taxing authority and potential economic impact.

5. **Minutes for any previous Meeting(s).**

Minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. Member Stelly motioned to approve the minutes. Member Thibodeaux seconded and the motion carried.

6. **Financial matters including:**

Director Hill presented the February financial report noting that net revenues did not match due to membership payments being collected in the previous fiscal year. Budget to actuals is in line with the year other than legal and travel which have been previously discussed. Legal will be readdressed with a request for proposal to local attorneys.

Officer Stelly motioned to approve the financial statements. Member Mohon seconded and the motion carried.

Director Hill presented the bills for payment and expenses through February 13<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Hill noted that the REDI payment had not been delivered due to changes that were occurring within the organization. Officer Burton motioned to approve the payment of bills. Member Stelly seconded and the motion carried.

7. **Update on the closure of emergency services at Baptist Hospital.**

Conversation was continued in part from Agenda Item #4. Judge Carlton updated the Board that there continues to be conversations about re-establishing a hospital in Orange County. Golden Triangle Emergency Center has shown interest in expanding their existing facility, potentially without the need for a hospital district. Also, conversations with Christus are ongoing regarding the possibility of a micro-hospital for Orange County similar to the proposed Mid County facility.

8. **Executive Director's Regular Report.**

Mrs. Hill informed the Board that the existing REDI liaison will no longer represent the organization as she has accepted a new position and a planning meeting has been scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup>. Membership dues to the organization have not been delivered and a determination will be made on renewing our dues after the planning meeting. Director notified the Board about an autonomous ship project seeking support for federal funding. They are asking for letters of support from area organizations and governmental entities. On February 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Hill made a presentation to an international prospect along with three other communities from the State. Follow up conversations are anticipated. She also recapped the Plastec visit and invited Board members to Houstex on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The pipeline concluded Director Hill's regular report in which eight new projects have been added. She also noted a subpoena was received for abatement documents related to Jefferson Energy. There did not appear to be any cause for concern in the matter.

Officer Stelly motioned to approve the report. Member Thibodeaux seconded and the motion carried.

9. **Closed Meeting to Deliberate commercial or financial information that the Governmental Body has received from a business prospect that the Governmental Body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the Governmental Body and with which the Governmental Body is conducting economic development negotiations, or to Deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to such a business prospect, under Section 551.087 of the Act, regarding any current, confidential OCEDC Projects.**

No Action

10. **Report by Corporation's Attorney on matters not otherwise included in the Agenda.**

No Action

11. **Set date, time and place of any presently anticipated Special Meeting to be held prior to the next Regular Meeting.**

No action

12. **Specify changes to the date, time and/or place of one or more particular Regular Session(s) if any of such factors are presently anticipated to be changed from standard Board Policy.**

There was discussion to consider meeting in Vidor for April or May.

13. **Adjourn Meeting.**

Member Stelly motioned to adjourn. Member Thibodeaux seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:41 pm.

**ORANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

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