



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

January 8, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 3:00pm, Monday, January 8, 2018, 123 S. 6th Street, Orange.

Members Present:

Mayor Cathy Nagel, City of Pine Forest
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Judge Brint Carlton, Orange County
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
Commissioner Barry Burton, Pct. 2
Robbie Hood, City of Pinehurst
Dan Mohon, City of Pinehurst
Ida Schossow, GOACC
Jerry Jones, City of Bridge City
Carl Thibodeaux, City of West Orange
Dr. Stephen Patterson, Orangefield ISD

Members Absent:

Stan Mathews, Sabine River Authority
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies
Dr. Pauline Hargrove, LCMCISD
Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
Dr. Michael Shahan, Lamar State College Orange

Others Present:

Jessica Hill, Executive Director
Christopher Leavins, Attorney
Zach Johnson, Rep. Dade Phelan's Office

Official Notice of the meeting detailing the time, date, place and purpose (Agenda), was posted on the Orange County Economic Development Corporation website and Orange County Administration Building on January 4, 2018.

1. **Convene Meeting.** President Burton opened the meeting at 3:01 pm.
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** President Burton led the pledge, invocation and roll call.
3. **Recognize Guests.**
The following guests were in attendance: Zach Johnson, Office of Representative Dade Phelan.
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.

No Action

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

Minutes of the November 20, 2017, meeting were reviewed. Officer Jones motioned to approve the minutes. Member Thibodeaux seconded and the motion carried.

6. **Financial matters including:**

Director Hill presented the January financial report for the quarters. She reported revenues were 53% of the budgeted amount due to the agreement with the County to pay in installments. Expenditures were in excess of the budgeted amount due to the approved expense if restricted funds for Harvey grant administration. The majority of expenses were under general marketing for contracted services. The statement of financial position reflected \$108,844.61 in total liabilities and equity. Motion was made by Member Thibodeaux to accept the financial report. It was seconded by Officer Stelly and the motion carried.

Director Hill presented the bills for payment and expenses through December 18, 2017. Payments totaled \$225,499.80 which included Harvey grant payments. Member Thibodeaux motioned to approve the financial report. Member Nagel seconded and the motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible approval of a standardized abatement matrix.**

Executive Director Hill was advised to work with the City of Orange to review the existing policy and make recommendations to the Board in a future board meeting.

No Action

8. Executive Director's Regular Report.

Director Hill provided the pipeline report with updates to ongoing projects. She presented the first draft of the marketing video, produced by Neon Cloud Productions. Mrs. Hill announced the GIS Planning application for demographic information was live on the website for public use and updated the Board on the status of our relationship with Retail Strategies. There were two dates of note, January 17th for the SETEDF Economic Forecast Breakfast and May 7-11th for IEDC Economic Development Week.

No Action

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.

The Board of Directors convened in closed session at 3:33pm. The Board returned to open session at 3:40pm.

10. Discussion and possible action resulting from Closed Meeting under Agenda Item No.9.

Motion was made by Member Thibodeaux to allow the OCEDC to move forward in allowing it to negotiate a tax abatement agreement with Market Basket Corporation in Mauriceville, TX. Motion was amended to include the recommended offer of a percentage abatement of 80%, 70%, 60%. Member Carlton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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.

The next meeting of the Board will be at 10:00am in Commissioners' Court. Motion was made by Member Patterson and seconded by Officer Stelly. Motion passed.

13. **Adjourn Meeting.**

Officer Jones motioned to adjourn. Officer Stelly seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

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