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**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

November 4, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Special Meeting at 5:00pm, Monday, November 4, 2019, Orange County Commissioner's Courtroom, 123 S 6th Street, Orange, Texas 77630

Members Present:

Robbie Hood, City of Pinehurst
Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Angela Jordan, City of Vidor
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange

Members Absent:

Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Ann Galassi, Sabine River Authority
Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange
Dr. Stephen Patterson – Orangefield ISD
Jerry Jones, City of Bridge City
Ida Schossow, GOACC
David Jones, Gopher Industrial
Dan Mohon, City of Pinehurst

Others Present:

Jessica Hill, Executive Director
Chris Leavins, Legal Counsel

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 October 30, 2019.

1. **Convene Meeting.** President Hood opened the meeting at 5:01 PM.
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Legal Counsel Chris Leavins led the invocation and Member Viator led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Hood led roll call.
3. **Recognize Guests.** The following guests were in attendance:
Marsi Patronella Ackerman, Citizen
Kelli Patin, Citizen
Latoya Overstreet, Citizen
Carl LeBlanc, Citizen
Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte, Orange County Pct. 3
Councilman Brad Childs, City of Orange
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.

Ms. Putin thanked the Board for holding a meeting after work hours.

5. **Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes for any previous Meeting(s).**

Motion was made by Member Viator to approve the September meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion carried.
6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including the financial report and bills for payment.**

Director Hill reported total revenues of \$146,489 and expenditures of \$102,903. Total net revenues for the year are \$43,585. Statement of financial position reports total assets/liabilities and equity of \$510,814 with restricted funds of \$14,257. Member Gauthier motioned to approve the report. Member Branch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director Hill presented the bills for payment totaling \$109,032.61 for September 23rd through October 28th. Member Wallace motioned to approve the bills for payment. Member Jordan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action to restrict the amount of \$150,000 in OCEDC's 2019-2020 budget for the purpose of land acquisition and development.**

Motion was made by Member Wallace to restrict funds for the purpose of land acquisition and development. Member Viator seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. **Discussion and possible action allowing the Executive Director to post a solicitation for employment for the position of Business Development Manager.**

Motion was made by Member Gauthier to advertise for the position of Business Development Manager. Motion was seconded by Member Wallace. Motion carried.

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

Director Hill updated the Board on the status of the Hotel Occupancy Tax allocation and possible approval of the allocations by Commissioners Court. She distributed the Experience Orange County design which will be used on billboards using HOT. The pipeline report includes three projects, two of which have made site visits to Orange County. A third project was added after a meeting with a potential opportunity with interest in deep-water access.

10. **Public workshop regarding discussion of economic development within Orange County.**

Marsi Patronella Ackerman discussed a desire for the creation of a Citizens Advisory Board made up of a representative from each precinct. She expressed concern for the average wage rate and a desire to improve on that with better representation from all citizens.

Latoya Overstreet expressed appreciation for the evening meeting and complimented the Experience Orange County image.

Kelli Patin complimented the art project and encouraged more art and mural projects throughout the community.

Carl Leblanc questioned whether the Commissioners appointed a representative to a committee. Director Hill responded with clarification of the committee appointment was for HOT.

Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte reiterated the structure of the EDC and complimented the work on the various art projects.

Member Randy Branch suggested adding a website to the billboard.

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

No Action

12. **Discussion and possible action regarding possible 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 of Directors will be Monday, January 6th in Council Chambers at 10:00am in Bridge City City Hall.

13. **Adjourn Meeting.**

Member Wallace motioned to adjourn. Member Trahan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

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