



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

March 1, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Monday March 1st, 2021 in the Orange County Commissioners' Courtroom, 123 S. 6th Street, Orange, Texas 77630 AND Via Zoom, Meeting ID 839 0506 0525

Members Present:

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
Shawn McAlpin – Orangefield ISD
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange
Jerry Hood, City of Pinehurst
T.W. Permenter, City of Pinehurst
Ida Schossow, GOACC
David Jones, Gopher Industrial
Jerry Jones, City of Bridge City
Brad Childs, Ace Hardware Childs Building

Members Absent:

Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4
Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Robbie Hood, City of Vidor
Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange
Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
Travis Williams, Sabine River Authority
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies

Others Present:

Jessica Hill, Executive Director
Megan Romero, Business Development Manager
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 February 25th, 2021.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Trahan opened the meeting at 10:00 am
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Chris Leavins led the invocation and Jerry Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Recognize Guests.** Lorrie Taylor, Port of Orange; Lanie Brown, Congressman Brian Babin's Office
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 inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the Agenda for a subsequent Regular or Special Board Meeting.

No Comments

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

Officer Stelly made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Jerry Jones. Motion carried.

6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**
 - (A) Director Hill presented the financial position and expenses. Current net revenue of \$20,996.47. Motion to approve the financial report made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Member Jerry Jones. Motion carried.
 - (B) Total bills for payment \$79,140.41. Motion to approve bills for payment made by Member Wallace, seconded by Member Jerry Jones. Motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action approving and selecting a proposal in response to the OCEDC's Request for Proposals for an industry growth strategy.**

Director Hill presented two RFPs for the industry growth strategy and the board discussed elements of each proposal. After discussion and comparison of each proposal, Member Jerry Jones made a motion to approve the RFP from Foremost Quality Logistics, seconded by Member Wallace. Motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action amending the OCEDC budget in response to agenda item #7.

Tabled until next meeting. No action.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding undistributed Small Business Recovery Grant funds (funds provided by Dow Sabine River Operations)

Staff updated the board on the remaining Small Business Recovery Grant funds and discussed options for how to proceed. Motion made by Officer Stelly to extend the application deadline to March 31st. Seconded by Member Wallace. Motion carried.

10. Executive Director's Regular Report.

Director Hill updated the board on some of the marketing and advertising that had been done recently. She discussed Golden Triangle Days, the virtual event that was to be held with state and local constituents. This event is scheduled for March 9th. The Economic Forecast Breakfast is scheduled for March 11th at 7:30am at the Beaumont Event Centre. Director Hill also updated the board on some of the current and pending projects in the project pipeline.

11. 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.

Entered closed session at 11:05am

12. Discussion and possible action resulting from Closed Meeting under Agenda Item No. 11.

Returned from closed session at 11:25am. No Action

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

None.

14. **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.**

Next meeting will be held in the Orange County Commissioner's Court Room on Monday May 3rd, 2021 at 10:00 am.

15. **Adjourn Meeting.**

Motion to adjourn made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Member Keith Wallace. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

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