



## **ORANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

### **MINUTES**

**March 10, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Monday March 10, 2025 in the Orange County Commissioner's Courtroom 123 S 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Orange, TX 77630

#### **Members Present**

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1  
Cynthia Adams, City of Pinehurst  
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange  
Randy Branch, City of West Orange  
Shaun McAlpin – Orangefield ISD  
Hillary Gravett, City of Orange  
Ida Schossow, GOACC  
Chad Jennings, Golden Triangle Polymers

#### **Members Absent:**

Gina Mannino, City of Bridge City  
Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4  
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange  
Robbie Hood, City of Vidor  
Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange  
David Jones, Gopher Industrial  
Jerry Hood, City of Pinehurst  
Travis Williams, Sabine River Authority  
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies

#### **Others Present:**

Megan Layne, Executive Director  
Jessica Irvin, Business Development Manager  
Christopher 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 March 7, 2025.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Stelly opened the meeting at 10:05 am
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Mayor Branch led the invocation and Chief Stelly led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Recognize Guests.**
4. **Public Comment**  
*At this time, members of the public or of the Board of Directors of the Governing authority may comment 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 a comment. 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).**  
  
Mayor Branch motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Adams. Motion Carried.
6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**
  - (A) **Financial report** – Motion to approve financial report made by Mayor Branch, seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried.
  - (B) **Bills for payment** – Motion by Member McAlpin, seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried.
7. **Discussion and possible to accept City of Bridge City's appointment of new City Manager Bart Bartkowiak to the OCEDC board. Appointment was approved by Orange County Commissioners on 2/25/2025.**  
  
Motion to accept Bart Bartkowiak to the OCEDC board made by Commissioner Trahan, seconded by Member McAlpin. Motion carried
8. **Discussion and possible to accept Lamar State College Orange's appointment of Dr. Wendy Elmore to the OCEDC board. Appointment was approved by Orange County Commissioners on 2/25/2025.**

Motion to accept Wendy Elmore to the OCEDC board made by Mayor Branch, seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried

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

Discussion and updates on the following.

- (A) Project Pipeline Report
  - 1. Project Blue Oleander – Abatement Update from 2/25/25
  - 2. Project Garnet Stone – Due Diligence Phase, still no economic impact report from them. Commissioner's Court gave their blessing for to present LOI to the company, but we are waiting until we receive the EIS to confirm investment figures.
- (B) Governor's Small Business Summit – April 24<sup>th</sup> 9am – 2pm: LSCO Shahan Center
- (C) Breakfast with the CP Chem CEO, Steven Prusak – April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8am: LSCO Shahan Center (Register with Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce. Seating is limited, pre registration required by April 4th)
- (D) Various Project updates/announcements Countywide
- (E) Confirmation of Cook Parker and Associates for 2023-2024 OCEDC Financial Audit.
- (F) Retail Strategies Update
- (G) Miscellaneous, Open Discussion

**10. 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.**

None

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

None

**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.**

Next meeting will be held May 5th, 2025 10 am.

**13. Adjourn Meeting.**

Meeting adjourned 10:51 am.

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