



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

July 11, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Tuesday July 11, 2023 in the Orange County Commissioner's Courtroom 123 S 6th Street, Orange, TX 77630

Members Present

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1
Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Cynthia Adams, City of Pinehurst
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange
Shaun McAlpin – Orangefield ISD
Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange
Ida Schossow, GOACC
David Jones, Gopher Industrial

Members Absent:

Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
Robbie Hood, City of Vidor
Jerry Hood, City of Pinehurst
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
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 July 6, 2023.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Stelly opened the meeting at 10:01 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.**

Hillary Gravett, City of Orange
Sheila Vincent, Cook Parker, PLLC
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.
5. **Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes for any previous Meeting(s).**

Commissioner Trahan motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Branch. Motion Carried.
6. **Discussion and possible action to approve the 2021-2022 Audit report by Cook Parker, PLLC**

Audit report/review was presented by Sheila Vincent. No Action.
7. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**
 - (A) **Financial report** – Motion to approve financial report made by Member Branch, seconded by Commissioner Viator. Motion carried.
 - (B) **Bills for payment** – Motion by Member Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried.
8. **Discussion and possible action regarding the DRAFT Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.**

Draft budget was presented, comparison budget will be sent out following the meeting to compare last year vs upcoming year. Final FY 2023-2024 Budget will be presented at the next meeting.

9. Discussion and possible action nominating two (2) representatives to serve on the Hotel Occupancy Tax Committee for Orange County.

Motion by Commissioner Viator to nominate Jack Patel and Keith Wallace to serve on the Hotel Occupancy Tax Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried.

10. Executive Director's Regular Report.

Discussion/updates on the following.

- Golden Triangle Polymers/Chevron Phillips Chemical economic impact study was updated to reflect more accurate figures on the new project. Copies will be available following the meeting.
- Local First Initiative – Staff has been working closely with the Local First Program Director, Kristie Young. OCEDC and Local First will be hosting a Vendor and Supplier Fair July 26th at the Orange County Expo Center. Staff has also created a web page linked to the OCEDC website that will be updated with useful information and links for the project.
- Introduction of new Business Development Manager, Jessica Irvin.
- Hotel Occupancy Tax Applications will be open August 1 – August 31.
- Retail Strategies ICSC Las Vegas update.
- Project Neptune update.
- Project Enterprise update.

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.

None

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

None

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.**

September 5, 2023 at 9:00 in the Commissioner's Court room.

15. **Adjourn Meeting.**

Meeting adjourned 11:11 am.

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