



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

September 12, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Monday September 12, 2022 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
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Cynthia Adams, City of Pinehurst
Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
Shawn McAlpin – Orangefield ISD
Ida Schossow, GOACC

Members Absent:

Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange
Brent Walker, City of Bridge City
David Jones, Gopher Industrial
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange
Jerry Hood, City of Pinehurst
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Robbie Hood, City of Vidor
Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
Travis Williams, Sabine River Authority
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies

Others Present:

Megan Layne, Executive Director
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 September 7th, 2022.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Stelly opened the meeting at 10:02 am
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Mayor Branch led the invocation and Officer Stelly led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Recognize Guests.**

Divon Williams – City of Orange EDC Board President

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).**

(A) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2022

(B) Special Board Meeting Minutes – August 30, 2022

Motion to accept the minutes made by Commissioner Trahan, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**
 - (A) **Financial Report:** Motion to approve the financial report made by Member Gauthier, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.
 - (B) **Bills for Payment:** Motion to approve bills for payment made by Commissioner Trahan seconded by Commissioner Viator. Motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.**

Motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget made by Member Gauthier, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

8. **Discussion and possible action regarding request for audit services proposals for fiscal year 2021-2022.**

Commissioner Trahan made a motion to approve Cook Parker P.L.L.C to perform the 2021 audit. Seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion Carried.

9. Nomination, discussion and action appointing the 2022-2023 OCEDC Board of Directors Officers.

Motion by Member Gauthier to keep the OCEDC Officers as is for the 2022-2023 year, and replace Jerry Hood with Cynthia Adams as Secretary Treasurer. Seconded by Commissioner Viator. Motion Carried.

2022-2023 Officers

President: Michael Stelly

Vice President: Terri Gauthier

Secretary/Treasurer: Cynthia Adams

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer: Robert Viator

10. Discussion and possible action designating signatories on the OCEDC CommunityBank of Texas checking account and authorizing the execution of any necessary resolutions or authorizations regarding same.

Motion to remove Jessica Hill as a signatory and add Megan Layne (Executive Director) and Cynthia Adams (Secretary/Treasurer) as signatories made by Commissioner Trahan, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

11. Executive Director's Regular Report

Mrs. Layne shared updates on the HOT Tax applications. The deadline for applications was August 31st, and we received a total of 18 applications. The committee will meet soon to discuss the applications and make a recommendation for Commissioner's Court. She also discussed the recent Industry and Education lunch hosted by the OCEDC and LSCO. This event was a great turnout for industry and K-12/higher education representatives to discuss plans for workforce and education training. Lastly, Mrs. Layne provided updates on 4 state leads which the EDC will submit sites for consideration.

12. 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.

Enter closed session 10:31 am

13. Discussion and possible action resulting from Closed Meeting under Agenda Item No. 8.

Return from closed session 10:54 am

Motion by Commissioner Member Gauthier to present the staff's recommendation for Project E incentive package to Commissioner's Court during closed session on September 13th. Seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

14. 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

15. 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.

Monday November 7, 2022. 10 AM Commissioner's Court Room.

16. Adjourn Meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Viator, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.

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