

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF WESLACO
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 20, 2019

On this, twentieth (20th) day of March, 2019 at 6:00 PM, The Economic Development Corporation of Weslaco convened its regular meeting at the Business-Visitor & Event Center Board Room located at 275 South Kansas Avenue, Weslaco, Texas.

The following members were present:

Joe Olivarez – President
Diana Fuentes-Aguilar – Vice President
Rick Talbert
Benita Valadez
JJ Serrano

Also present were:

Marie McDermott – EDCW Executive Director
Steven Valdez – EDCW Director
Maria Cisneros – EDCW Manager
Miros Valdez – EDCW Manager
Lillie Delgado – EDCW Manager
Chuy Ramirez – EDCW Attorney
Rudy Salinas - EDCW CPA
Frank Almarez – Chief Executive Officer, Workforce Solutions

I. CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 PM Mr. Olivarez called the meeting of March 20th, 2019 to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting of February 20th, 2019.

Mr. Talbert made a motion to approve the minutes from February 20th, 2019.
Mrs. Olivarez seconds the motion.

Mr. Talbert votes in favor.
Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.
Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

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Motion passes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Welcome and Introduction of Juan Jose "JJ" Serrano, Newly Appointed EDCW Board Member.

Mr. Olivarez welcomed and introduces Mr. JJ Serrano, newly appointed Board Member to the EDCW.

No motion required.

B. Discussion and Deliberation Regarding EDCW Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 2018.

Mr. Talbert made a motion to authorize the EDCW audit for Fiscal Year Ending on September 2018 in accordance with the letter of engagement submitted.

Mr. Valadez seconds the motion.

Mr. Talbert votes in favor.

Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.

Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.

Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.

Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

Motion passes.

C. Discussion and Deliberation Regarding Resolution to Obtain Corporate Credit Card.

Mrs. Valadez made a motion to approve to obtain corporate credit card

Mrs. Aguilar seconds the motion.

Mrs. Valadez amends her motion to approve the corporate credit card with a maximum amount of \$10,000 for Ms. McDermott and maximum amount of \$5,000 for Mr. Valdez.

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Mrs. Aguilar seconds the motion.

Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.

Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.

Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.

Mr. Talbert votes in favor.

Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

Motion passes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Deliberation Regarding a Grant Request from Workforce Solutions to Texas Workforce Commission for High Demand Job Training Program.

Frank Almarez made a presentation regarding the high demand job training program,

Mr. Almarez is asking for \$31,000 it will be a dollar for dollar match from Workforce Solutions to train STC students. The funds will be used to buy equipment to train students for jobs for Weslaco businesses and to purchase equipment.

B. Discussion and Deliberation Regarding South Texas College Grant.

Mrs. Valadez made a motion to approve \$31,000 for Workforce Solutions with matching from Workforce for high demand job training program to be draw out of the previously approved grant of \$100,000 that has already been budgeted.

Mrs. Aguilar seconds the motion.

Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.

Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.

Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.

Mr. Talbert votes in favor.

Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

Motion passes.

VI. REPORTS

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A. Monthly Financial Report – February 2019.

Mr. Salinas presented the financial report for February 2019 to the Board.

No action required.

B. Executive Director Report.

- Monthly Report

Ms. McDermott presented her report to the Board where she highlighted events she attended RSTEC February Board of Directors Meeting; Project Levine, South Texas Manufacturing Association & U.S. Small Business Advocate. Worked on research for Project Park, Project Motorcycle, Project Ram, Project Oscar, and Project Kit. Business retention and expansion visits, DPS Headquarters & the Onion House. Also approval of contract with the City of Weslaco for Project Alley, follow-up with City of Weslaco regarding pavers, working on date for Strategic Planning Workshop, and meeting with City Manager & Chamber every week.

No action required.

C. Economic Development Director Report.

- Monthly Report

Mr. Valdez presented his report to the Board where he highlighted the following: appointments with seven prospects, planning ground breaking ceremony for CiL Logistics, assisting with the grand opening for the Tower Theater, also worked on Project Tube, Project Thomas, the overpass lighting and three Business Retention and Expansion visits.

No action required.

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D. Economic Development Manager Report, M. Cisneros.

- **Monthly Report**

Ms. Cisneros made her report to the Board, where she highlighted the 30 leads that she is currently working-on, Project Empire and Project Orange attended the State of the City event, also coordinated with the City to help a development that had been on a standstill to move forward. Project Biscuit, talked to a developer and sent a marketing package. Also working to set-up meeting for RECON conference, updating 31 commercial real estate properties on the EDCW website, worked on reports for the agenda and agenda binders.

No action required.

E. Economic Development Manager Report, L. Delgado.

- **Monthly Report**

Mrs. Delgado presented her report to the Board where she highlighted the Facebook postings of the Story Book Garden, I Theater, Frost Bank, Domain Development, and Alegro's Flower Shop Façade grant completion. Also a report on Alfresco's last event of the season. Advertising on the Digital Billboard are Jason's Deli, Law Office of Diana Fuentes Aguilar, and JS Hospice.

No Action Required.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:36 PM Ms. Cisneros announces that the EDCW Board is now in Executive Session.

At 7:07 PM Mr. Olivarez announces that the EDCW Board is now out of Executive Session and reconvene in Open Session.

VIII. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Mr. Talbert exit's the room prior to discussion of Project Park.

- A. Project Park 99-16-09-01: Discussion and Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations or Offer of a Financial Or Other Incentive to a Business prospect (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code section 551.072)

After full discussion by the Board, Mr. Talbert rejoins the meeting.

No action taken.

Mrs. Aguilar exit's the Board Room prior to discussion of Project Eagle.

- B. Project Eagle 207-18-09-19 Discussion and Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations or Offer of a Financial Or Other Incentive to a Business prospect (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code section 551.072)

After full discussion by the Board, Mrs. Aguilar rejoins the meeting.

Mrs. Valadez made a motion to approve the grant for \$1,996.00.
Mr. Serrano seconds the motion.

Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.
Mr. Serrano votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Talbert votes in favor.
Mrs. Aguilar abstains from voting.

Motion passes.

- C. Project Foot 229-19-03-13: Discussion and Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations or Offer of a Financial Or Other Incentive to a Business prospect (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code section 551.072)

Mrs. Aguilar made a motion to approve the proposed amount as discussed under Executive Session.
Mrs. Valadez seconds the motion.

Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.
Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.

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Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Talbert votes in favor.
Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

Motion passes.

D. Project Mission 231-19-03-15: Discussion and Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations or Offer of a Financial Or Other Incentive to a Business prospect (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code section 551.072)

Mrs. Aguilar made a motion to approve the recommendation from EDCW staff of \$539.00 grant.

Mrs. Valadez seconds the motion.

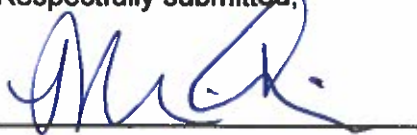
Mrs. Aguilar votes in favor.
Mrs. Valadez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Talbert votes in favor.
Mr. Serrano votes in favor.

Motion passes.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business before the Board, at 7:11 PM the EDCW Board Meeting of March 20, 2019 was adjourned.


Respectfully submitted,



Maria Cisneros - Recorder

The minutes were approved on the Regular Board Meeting of April 17, 2019.

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Cynthia Cabaza – Secretary