

**Athens Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for October 15, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereafter referred to as AEDC) held a Board Meeting at 8:30 A.M. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 in the Derek D. Daniels Room of the Athens Partnership Center located at 201 W. Corsicana Street, Athens, Texas.

Directors present: John Trent, Carmen Hunt, Randy Jones, Danny Tidmore, Morgan Jones, Cliff Bomer and Will Traxson

Staff present: Valerie Franklin and Joan Ahlers

Ex-Officio: Mayor Monte Montgomery, City Manager Elizabeth Borstad

Guests: Councilmember Aaron Smith, Councilmember Robert Gross, Councilwoman Toni Clay, City of Athens Finance Director Mandie Quigg, City Secretary Bonnie Hambrick, David Daniels, Deborah Deas, Gary Ahlers, Al Moellenbeck, Mark Carroll, Rich Flowers, Michael Hannigan

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 A.M. by President Will Traxson for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

Introduction of Joan Ahlers

Will Traxson introduced Joan Ahlers, the new Executive Director of the Athens Economic Development Corporation.

Citizen Comments

Deborah Deas thanked the Board for the benches granted to the East Texas Arboretum

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Update of the following: East Texas Arboretum and Botanical Society and Henderson County Regional Fair Park Community Development Grants

Finance Director Mandie Quigg updated the Board on the East Texas Arboretum and Botanical Society and Henderson County Fair Park Community Development Grants. She stated both projects have been completed with a total fiscal impact of \$19,000 for Henderson County Fair Park and \$5,000 to the East Texas Arboretum.

Discuss AEDC Grant Programs:

A. Business Assistance Grants

B. Community Development Grants

John Trent stated he would like the Board to discuss the expenditures for Business Assistance Grants and Community Development Grants. Councilmember Robert Gross expressed his thoughts of double dipping with taxpayer money.

Mayor Montgomery stated there needs to be better communication. After discussion, John Trent, Randy Jones and Carmen Hunt will co-chair a committee to discuss with representatives of the City how to handle funds for Business Assistance and Committee Development Grants.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding an engagement with Brown & Hofmeister, LLP for Jeff Moore to provide legal services to AEDC

City Manager Elizabeth Borstad stated discussions occurred with Will Traxson concerning legal counsel for AEDC. She stated Jeff Moore has submitted an agreement AEDC to provide legal services.

John Trent made a motion to approve an engagement with Jeff Moore with Brown & Hofmeister, LLP for Jeff Moore to provide legal services to AEDC. Carmen Hunt seconded. Randy Jones Abstained. The motion carried 6-1.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of Minutes from AEDC Board Meeting September 17, 2019

Carmen Hunt made a motion to approve the minutes from the AEDC Board meeting of September 17, 2019. Danny Tidmore seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the following items:

- A. July 2019 Financials**
- B. August 2019 Financials**
- C. September 2019 Financials**

Randy Jones made a motion to approve July, August and September 2019 Financials. Danny Tidmore seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of reimbursements to the City of Athens for AEDC expenditures.

Finance Director Mandie Quigg updated the Board concerning the reimbursements to the City from July through September 30, 2019. The total is \$27,407.91. Carmen Hunt made a motion to approve reimbursements to the City of Athens for AEDC. John Trent seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the following items associated with AEDC owned properties:

- A. Biometrics FMI, LLC Draw Request #7 in the amount of \$33,359.51**

Finance Director Mandie Quigg brought to the Board's attention there were two items submitted

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for payment that were in question. Rental of a restroom trailer for \$5500.00 and two employees' time cards for Holiday time and bonuses totaling almost \$1200.00. She stated these items do not improve the property.

There was discussion concerning the payment of bonuses and a temporary restroom facility. A final motion was made by Cliff Bomer and seconded by Carmen Hunt to pay the amended amount of \$27,347.55. The motion passed 7-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of an Administrative Services Agreement between the AEDC Board and the City of Athens

There was discussion regarding the Board maintaining the control and delegating duties to the City of Athens.

Carmen Hunt made a motion that this item be tabled until Will Traxson confers with Jeff Moore and make changes. It was seconded by Cliff Bomer. The motion carried 7-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding options for AEDC to assist in the planning and development of a new Police Station

President Will Traxson discussed possibilities to help with funding of a new police station. There was discussion. No further action was taken.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to the Texas Government Code:

- A. Section 551.087 – Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations:
Deliberations regarding negotiations with the following prospects:
Prospect #1796
Prospect #1797
Prospect #1798**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:40 A.M.

The Board re-convened in open session at 10:42 A.M.

Consider and discussion and possible action on items discussed under Agenda item 14

Prospect #1796

Cliff Bomer made a motion to award \$250,000 to Prospect #1796 for request for water and sewer and it was seconded by Carmen Hunt. The motion passed unanimously.

Prospect #1797

John Trent made a motion to award up to \$250,000 to Prospect #1797 for expansion. It was seconded by Danny Tidmore, the motion passed unanimously.

Prospect #1798

No action was taken.

AEDC Board of Director’s request for future agenda items.

John Trent requested future agenda item to discuss and take action concerning Business Assistance Grant and the Community Development Grant being taken removed from AEDC budget by the City Council. John Trent, Randy Jones and Carmen Hunt will co-chair a committee to discuss with representatives of the City.

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 A.M.

Carmen Hunt, Secretary

Will Traxson, President