

**Athens Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for March 20, 2018**

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereafter referred to as AEDC) held a Board Meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, in the Athens Partnership Center located at 201 W. Corsicana Street, Athens, Texas.

Directors present: Jeaneane Lilly, John Trent, Carmen Hunt, Will Traxson, Cliff Barrett and Randy Jones

Directors absent: Cliff Bomer

Ex-Officio: Elizabeth Borstad, City Manager

Staff present: Lisa Denton, Sherri Skeeters and Dede Sims

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Lilly for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

Citizen Comments

None

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Consider discussion and possible approval of minutes from the following AEDC Meetings:

A. AEDC Board Meeting February 20, 2018

B. AEDC Business Assistance Grant Committee Meeting February 16, 2018

C. AEDC Community Development Grant Committee Meeting March 8, 2018

John Trent made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. Cliff Barrett seconded the motion and motion carried 6-0.

Consider discussion and possible action on the following items associated with AEDC financials.

A. February 2018 finance reports

The board received an update from Lisa Denton on the revenues, expenditures and commitments of AEDC for the month of February 2018.

Cliff Barrett made a motion to approve the February financials. Carmen Hunt seconded and motion carried 6-0.

Update on Freeport Tax Exemption

Lisa Denton will be presenting at a workshop for Henderson County Commissioner's Court later today. AEDC has collected all but two of the participating companies' applications; currently four businesses have opted out. Contracts will be presented to the City and ISD on 3/26/18.

Consider Discussion and possible action on the following AEDC Grant Programs:

A. Business Assistance Grant Program

1. Athens Screen Printing – Applicant proposes to make façade improvements in the amount of \$22,729.25. This project qualifies for a 50% matching grant, in the amount of \$11,364.25.

Will Traxson made a motion to approve grant funding, in an amount not to exceed \$11,364.25 to Athens Screen Printing for façade improvements. Carmen Hunt seconded the motion and motion carried 6-0.

2. Henderson County HELP Center-This project was approved in last year's round of funding. Project is complete and staff recommends payment of \$600 for lighting improvements.

Will Traxson made a motion, seconded by Cliff Barrett, to approve the grant payment, in the amount of \$600, to Henderson County HELP Center. Motion carried 6-0.

B. Community Development Grant Program

1. Committee Chair Traxson presented the recommendations for funding of the 2018 project applications, as follows:
 - A. Athens Teenage Baseball Association, Inc. \$15,000 to cover batting cages and complete significant drainage and landscaping improvements along all fields, at a total estimated cost of \$20,000.
 - B. Henderson County Regional Fair Park \$30,000 to replace 40 equine stalls in the front barn, at a total cost of \$66,636

Motion was made by John Trent to approve the funding recommendations, and seconded by Will Traxson. Motion carried 6-0.

Consider discussion and possible approval of the following items associated with AEDC Strategic Plan Goal 2 – Marketing and Attraction:

A. Video Proposals

Staff presented the following proposals for testimonial videos:

	1 Video	2 Videos	3 Videos	Length
Wes Akin	\$1,000	\$1,800	\$2,400	90 secs
Michael Allen	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$3,000	90 secs
Eastex Productions	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,444	90 secs
Wade Huggins	\$750	\$1,500	\$2,250	90 secs

Motion was made by Randy Jones, seconded by Carmen Hunt, to contract with Wade Huggins for one initial video at a cost of \$750. Motion carried 6-0.

Consider entering into Executive Session according to TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE Chapter 551 to discuss the following:

At 8:29 a.m., President Lilly announced that the board would enter into Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE Chapter 551, in accordance with the authority contained in the following sections:

- A. Section 551.072 – Deliberation regarding Real Property
 - Possible lease/sale of real property:
 - 201 W. Corsicana
 - 1391 Flat Creek Rd., Suite 103
- B. Section 551.087 - Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations with the following prospects:
 - Prospect #1550 Prospect #1638
 - Prospect #1578 Prospect #1639
 - Prospect #1593 Prospect #1674

The board reconvened into Open Session at 9:02 a.m.

Consider discussion and possible action on items discussed under Agenda Item 9

Will Traxson made a motion to enter into a 60 day temporary \$0 lease with Extreme Engineering, for the property at 1391 Flat Creek Road, to allow for the preparation of documents enabling the sale of the property to tenant, at a cost of \$40,800, with a credit of \$20,800 for job incentive owed by AEDC on their initial project. The balance due of \$20,000 will be owner financed by AEDC for a one year term with no interest. John Trent seconded and motion carried 6-0.

With no further business remaining, a motion to adjourn at 9:07 AM was made by Carmen Hunt and seconded by Cliff Barrett. Motion carried 6-0.

Carmen Hunt, Secretary

Jeaneane Lilly, President