



**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
GONZALES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.
VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

The Regular Meeting of the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation was held on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference pursuant to Section 551.045 of the Texas Government Code and in accordance with the March 16, 2020 order by the Governor of the State of Texas.

The meeting agenda and packet were posted online at www.gonzales.texas.gov.

The public was offered a toll-free dial in number to participate in the telephone conference hosted through FreeConferenceCall.com.

1. Call to Order

President Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Director Meena Patel gave the invocation. President Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum

Present:

Andy Rodriguez, President
Meena Patel, Vice-President
Gerri Lawing, Secretary
Connie Kacir
Dan Blakemore

A quorum was declared present.

Staff attending:

Kim Tucker, Interim Executive Director
Tim Patek, City Manager
Kristi Gilbert, Interim City Secretary (*left the meeting at 6:30 pm*)

4. Petitions or Requests from the Public

President Rodriguez read the letters of support for Agenda Item #12 regarding a financial assistance request from the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation will hold a closed Executive Session meeting pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:**
- a. **Section 551.071: Consultation with Attorney to receive legal advice regarding:**
 - **Lease Agreement – Lynn Theatre**

The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation convened into closed session at 6:13 pm.

6. **Reconvene into Regular Session: The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation will reconvene into Regular Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to take any action necessary concerning the executive session.**

The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation reconvened into regular session at 6:39 pm.

Meena Patel made the motion to authorize the changing of the locks immediately at Lynn Theatre and for legal counsel to send a 10-day written notice to the lessors to pay back rent in the amount of \$35,000.00, additional to any interest and penalties, including attorney's fees and utilities or terminate the lease agreement concerning the Lynn Theatre. Connie Kacir seconded the motion. President Rodriguez called for the vote:

AYES: Kacir, Blakemore, Lawing, Patel, Rodriguez

NOES: None

The motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes for the following meetings:**
- a. **April 6, 2020**
 - b. **April 13, 2020**
 - c. **May 27, 2020**
 - d. **June 1, 2020**

Dan Blakemore moved to approve the minutes in aggregate as presented. Connie Kacir seconded the motion. President Rodriguez called for the vote:

AYES: Kacir, Blakemore, Lawing, Patel, Rodriguez

NOES: None

The motion carried.

8. **PUBLIC HEARING: The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation will receive comments for a proposed project and the expenditure of funds for Ace Invest, LLC, project to promote new business development. The proposed project and the expenditure of funds may be used for building improvements, including but not limited to the installation of a sprinkler system and necessary modifications to the building, and other expenses related to the same. Total of all project incentives and the expenditure of funds not to exceed \$33,200.00.**

President Rodriguez opened the public hearing at 6:43 pm. There being no comments, President Rodriguez closed the public hearing at 6:44 pm.

9. Discussion and presentation by Andy Rodriguez, Board President, regarding potential future projects and recommendations from the expansion & enhancement committee.

President Rodriguez provided the board with a final report from the Gonzales Economic Development Expansion/Enhancement Committee.

10. WORKSHOP: Review and discuss the proposed budget for the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation for fiscal year 2020/2021.

Interim Executive Director Tucker reviewed the various line item changes and the proposed budget.

11. Discussion regarding the monthly financial report(s) for May, 2020:

- a. Balance Sheet/Profit & Loss
- b. Financial Statement
- c. Bank Reconciliation
- d. Sales Tax Revenues (October 2019 – May 2020)

President Rodriguez passed on this item due to the absence of Larry Wehde, Treasurer.

12. Discussion and possible action regarding a small business incentive grant application received from the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture for financial assistance for renovation of property located at 304 Saint Louis Street to relocate the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center.

Connie Kacir asked if the Chamber of Commerce owned the building and the current equity in the new building. Daisy Scheske Freeman was available via phone and responded that she did not have the equity information with her and that the Chamber of Commerce owed approximately \$100,000.00 on the building. Gerri Lawing made the motion to table the item. Dan Blakemore seconded the motion. President Rodriguez called for the vote:

AYES: Kacir, Blakemore, Lawing, Patel, Rodriguez

NOES: None

The motion carried.

13. Reports and/or announcements on the following items:

a. Update regarding the COVID-19 Business Grants

Interim Executive Director Tucker informed the board that the final number of approved grants was ninety (90) for an amount of \$448,600.00.

14. Request(s) for future agenda items and comment(s).

Meena Patel asked for an update from the Main Street and that the Chamber request be placed on the next agenda.

15. Adjournment

President Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Andy Rodriguez, President

Gerri Lawing, Secretary