



**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING
GONZALES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Monday, March 22, 2021
Gonzales City Council Chamber
820 St. Joseph
Gonzales, Texas 78629**

1. Call to Order
Vice President Meena Patel Called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
President Andy Rodriguez gave the invocation and Director Dan Blakemore gave the invocation.
3. Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum

Andy Rodriguez, President
Ken Morrow, Director
Connie Kacir, Director
Larry Wehde, Treasurer

Meena Patel, Vice President
Gerri Lawing, Secretary
Dan Blakemore, Director

Staff in attendance:

Tim Patek, City Manager

Jennifer Kolbe, Economic Development Director

Guest: Barbara Crozier

Councilman Rob Brown

4. Petitions or Requests from the Public

This time is set aside for any person who wishes to address the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation (GEDC). Each person should fill out the speaker's register prior to the meeting. Pursuant to Section 551.007 (c) of the Texas Local Government Code, the total allotted time for Hearing of Residents is limited to thirty (30) minutes per meeting, but in no event shall one (1) speaker exceed (3) minutes unless otherwise allowed by the Presiding Officer. Members of the public desiring to provide public comment on matters scheduled for a public hearing will be allowed to speak only once either during the Hearing of Residents portion or during the public hearing. Individuals not able to attend due to space limitations may email the GEDC at least two (2) hours prior to the meeting at: gedc@gonzales.texas.gov

Gonzales resident Mr. John Such made comments about action taken at the previous board meeting and stated that the GEDC is trying to ensure Gonzales has jobs. He provided a report showing that with due to the pandemic more people are working remote. He provided the Board a copy of a Wall Street Journal article entitled, "How remote work is reshaping Americans Urban Geography," which told a story of how some cities are paying people to relocate to their communities because they can telecommute and don't have to live in the same city that they work in. He stated that he would like to see some funding used for smaller organizations that need infrastructure for the community to have a better quality of life.

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes for the following meeting:
 - a. February 25, 2021
Director Ken Morrow made a motion to approve the minutes and Director Connie Kacir seconded the motion. The motion carried with corrections to President Rodriguez's name corrected.
6. Discussion regarding the monthly financial report(s) for January and February 2021.
Treasurer Larry Wehde presented the financial statements to be filed for audit purposes.
7. Report, discussion, and possible action from GEDC Loan Committee.
The loan committee – Director Dan Blakemore provided a report outlining a new standardized policy for new and existing loans. The plan would refinance existing loan balances with at 1% interest rate with new performance agreements. If the borrower pays down the loan balance without missing any payments and did not violate their performance agreement, they would be eligible for loan forgiveness one they paid down the refinanced amount by 50%. He said it would be Phase 2 of Covid-19 relief. This would give all borrowers a fresh start and put the goal of the forgivable in their court. The next steps outlined were to get legal counsel recommendations and a standardize deal. Director Ken Morrow made the motion a motion to accept the committee's recommendations President Andy Rodriguez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Report from Covid-19 Grant Committee.
The Covid-19 Grant committee – Directors Meena Patel and Connie Kacir provided a report on the plan to assist companies get in compliance with their Covid-19 grant compliance. Upon approval from legal counsel, staff will mail out a letter with a copy of their agreement regular postage with 30 days to submit reports. If after 30 days reports are not submitted a certified letter would be sent. If reports are not received after the second mailing, they will be sent a notice of default. No action was required.
9. Discussion and possible action regarding a request for funding from the City of Gonzales improvements at JB Wells Park.
No discussion took place and no action was taken.
10. Discussion and possible action regarding a request for funding from the City of Gonzales for improvements at Gonzales Memorial Museum.
No discussion took place and no action was taken.
11. The GEDC Board met in closed session in accordance with Sections 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Real Property. The board entered closed session at 6:47 p.m.
12. Reconvene to regular session and take any actions on discussion held in closed session under Agenda Items No. 11
The board reconvened at 7:17 p.m. No action was taken.
13. Discussion on Type 4A and Type 4B Economic Development Projects.
No action was taken.

14. Discussion on investment options.
No action was taken. The item will be brought before the board after staff completes the Public Finance Investment Act raining class and a policy is developed for consideration.
15. Discussion on a collections policy.
No action was taken. Director Connie Kacir described the policy
16. Discussion on the Lynn Theater
 - a. Sign – Staff reported that National Sign company made a visit and almost completed work but will have to return to repair a part of the sign that was out of reach because the company’s ladder was too short.
 - b. Roof – Roof repairs are underway and will be completed with a week.
 - c. Marketing Plan
 - d. Citizen Advisory Committee Report
17. Discussion and possible action on a Strategic Plan.
Staff handed out a copy of an example of the type of strategic plan for review. No action was taken.
18. Report from the Economic Development Director. Staff provided a report of the months activities and provide a copy of the GEDC pitch deck.
19. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____ day of April 2021.

Gerri Lawing, Secretary