

October 21, 2024
Yoakum City Hall
Conference Room – 11:30 AM

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YOAKUM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESENT: Layne Brandt President
Linda Schmidt Secretary
Carl O'Neill Director
Michael Trojcak Director
Pam Ward Director
Tanya Wenzel Director
Genora Young Executive Director
Michael Mitchell City Manager
Theresa A. Bowe City Clerk

ABSENT: Whitney Boone Vice-President

President Brandt called the meeting to order at 11:37 AM.

Director Trojcak moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2024 as presented. Second was made by Director Wenzel; motion carried unanimously.

The Financial Report was reviewed. Questions were posed and addressed; EDC funds have been separated from the City funds and interest accrual was outlined. Sales tax revenue is above budget; EDA grant funding was discussed; ED Young suggested requesting assistance from the City in terms of the needed matching funds for the EDA grant. Secretary Schmidt moved to approve the Financial Report as presented. Second was made by Director Wenzel and motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the Annual Report for City Council due November 30, 2024. A draft report was provided by ED Young. After review and discussion, Director Wenzel made a motion to accept the Annual Report and submit to the City Council as presented. Second was made by Director Trojcak and motion carried unanimously.

Director Carl O'Neill arrived at 11:56 AM to join the meeting.

Executive Director Young provided recommendations for amendments to future YEDC grant programs as presented from Mr. Ian Fisher. Mr. Fisher has analyzed the existing grant program and offered suggestions. Unfortunately, YEDC is not at a place that some of the suggestions will be able to be implemented at this time. Suggestions included, among other items, a tiered grant program that would simplify the grant applications and reduce paperwork. Current grant programs were suggested to remove Small Business Development Center input as a requirement. Direction provided to staff to meet with Finance Committee for a reconfigure of the grant program.

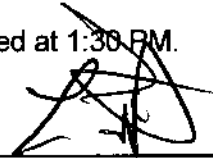
A Joint Meeting/Workshop with City Council was scheduled for November 18, 2024 with the YEDC regular monthly meeting moving to 4:00 PM and the joint meeting with City Council to begin at 5:15 PM. The Joint Meeting agenda should include a discussion item on the Industrial Park II, the existing grant program and suggested modifications.

Under Executive Director's Update: Information was provided on the following projects: Industrial Park II progress; a brief written report was provided. Website Development is still underway. ED Young will be meeting with Eisenberg next week to provide additional content; biographies are uploaded, photos are being adjusted, and ED Young is reaching out to businesses to determine if they would like to provide a paragraph for the businesses or links to their websites. The Placer.ai contract went into effect on October 1, 2024 10/1/2024. A kick off meeting has been held and staff will be going through training for use of the software. The Yoakum Heritage Museum Gala is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2024. The City is sponsoring a table, and YEDC members are invited to join. October Conferences were reviewed including the Texas Municipal League Annual Conference, the Texas Economic Development Council, and the Texas Downtown Association to be attended.

President Brandt announced that the Board would enter into Executive Session at 12:19 PM to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, etc. of the Economic Development Executive Director (V.T.C.A., Gov. Code, Sec. 551.074); to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for (V.T.C.A., Gov. Code, Sec. 551.072) on Project "Check Point" and Project "Opportunity Knocking", to deliberate regarding economic development negotiations (V.T.C.A., Gov. Code, Sec. 551.087), and deliberate regarding economic development negotiations (V.T.C.A., Gov. Code, Sec. 551.087) for Project "Check Point," for Project "Opportunity Knocking," and Project "Hydrate."

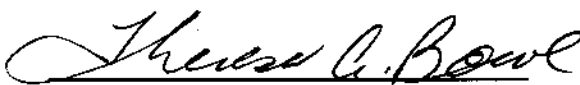
The meeting reopened to the public at 1:28 PM with the following action resulting: Motion by Director Trojcek to approve a \$.75 per hour cost of living increase for Executive Director Genora Young. Second was made by Director Schmidt; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.



Layne Brandt, President

ATTEST:



Theresa A. Bowe, TRMC
City Clerk

