

**MEETING OF THE YOAKUM ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monday, March 19, 2018
City Hall Conference Room – 11:30 AM**

PRESENT: Gery B. Maneth.....President
Anita R. Rodriguez.....Vice-President
Tommy Barre.....Director
Whitney Boone.....Director
Elorine Sitka.....Director
Zenith Stevens.....Director
Kevin Coleman.....City Manager
Theresa A. Bowe.....City Clerk
Chuck Dart.....Dir of Economic Development

ABSENT: Arthur G. Hermann III.....Secretary
Sandra Jacob.....Director of Finance

President Maneth called the meeting to order at 11:34 AM.

Director Sitka made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 19 and March 7, 2018 meetings as presented. Second was made by Director Stevens and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chez Bostick was present to provide information on Project 77A-1. Mr. Bostick is proposing a restaurant that will feature home cooking in a new facility to be built at a location on North Highway 77A in Yoakum. The process has been completed and the Texas Department of Transportation has approved the entrance for the location and he hope to open by October 1st. Questions were posed regarding parking; the Board thanked Mr. Bostick for his presentation.

Mr. Jeff Boswell was present to provide information on Project YGS-2 regarding a request from the Yoakum General Store for an extension to the April 1st deadline for completion of the lumber yard. Hurricane Harvey slowed the progress; the contractor was called away to make emergency repairs in other locations and the deadline will not be met. The Board informed Mr. Boswell that deliberation will be held and he will receive a response.

Mrs. Tammie Steinman was present regarding Project May-2 representing the Grand Theater expansion request. The Theater has been very active and has been a great success. She is requesting additional assistance to add a second smaller screen. It will allow more versatility and allow her to continue with the additional community events. She has purchased half of the building next door and plans to rehabilitate it for a second screen with about 120 seats. Plans are to begin the project if approved by the YEDC for the additional funding. The other half of the building is independently owned.

Additional comments were received from the audience; Mr. Felipe Rosales has purchased a building on Front Street and has plans to renovate the building into a bar and grill. He indicated that he may return at a later date to make a request for assistance.

President Maneth announced that the Board would enter into Executive Session at 12:04 PM to 1) deliberate regarding economic development negotiations as it pertains to the presentation of Project YGS-2 (V.T.C.A. Gov. Code, Sec. 551.087), and to deliberate regarding economic development negotiations as it pertains to the presentation of Project May-2 (V.T.C.A. Gov. Code, Sec. 551.087). The meeting re-opened to the public at 12:23 PM with the following

action resulting: motion by Director Rodriguez to grant an extension to the Yoakum General Store for the opening of the Lumber Yard until July 1, 2018. Second was made by Director Sitka and motion carried unanimously.

The March Sales Tax Comparison Report was presented for review and discussion was held.

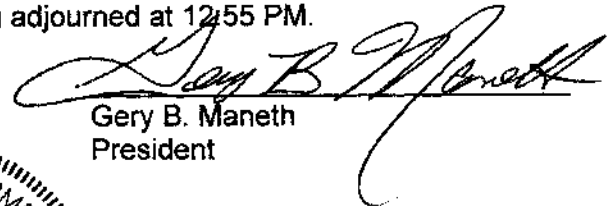
Director Sitka made a motion to accept the February Financial Report as presented. Motion was seconded by Director Boone and carried unanimously.

The Annual Business Appreciation Luncheon was discussed; the date was set for May 2, 2018. Presenters will be researched based on the Board's suggestions. Community Center availability will be verified. Additional details will be provided for Board information as they become available.


Discussion was held regarding a schedule for the grant workshop. The date was set for April 18th at 5:00 PM. Proposed point systems and applications were presented for review.

Director of Economic Development Dart provided information under the Director's Report: 1) DED Dart informed the Board no additional details were available regarding the potential national retailer moving to the Yoakum area; 2) Mr. Dart has not received an responses from other prospects as of yet; 3) Regarding city rebranding, the Yoakum Area Chamber of Commerce and the City Council have both expressed interest and support. Council believes it should be a citizen lead effort, most likely by the merchants in the Chamber. The Chamber of Commerce chose to postpone discussion until after the Tom Tom festival.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.


Gery B. Maneth
President

Attest:


Theresa A. Bowe
City Clerk

