

REGULAR MEETING OF THE YOAKUM ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monday, April 14, 2014
City Hall Conference Room – 11:30 AM

PRESENT: Tim Faulkner.....President
Anita R. Rodriguez.....Vice-President
Arthur G. Hermann III.....Secretary
Tommy Barre.....Director
Gery Maneth.....Director
Zenith Stevens.....Director
Patrick J. Kennedy.....E/C Development Coordinator
Kevin Coleman.....City Manager
Sandra Jacob.....Director of Finance
Theresa A. Bowe.....City Clerk

ABSENT: Dave Talbert.....Director

The meeting was called to order by President Faulkner at 11:42 AM.

A motion was made by Director Maneth with a second by Director Hermann to adopt the minutes from the meeting of March 10, 2014 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

With the presentation of the March 2014 Financial Report, information was provided by the City Manager regarding Auditor recommendations and a State ruling that YEDC funds held in a City account may or may not be secured under FDIC separately from City funds. Director Hermann made a motion to accept the financial statement as presented. Second was made by Director Rodriguez; motion carried unanimously.

Rosa Rios Valdez with BCL of Texas, of Austin, Texas was present to provide information regarding 3rd party services for business loan management available through the company. Mark Jemelka and Charlie Proschko with Circle Y Saddles, Inc. were present to be included in the conversation. BCL of Texas is a non-profit organization that assists economic development corporations with lending activities and has been providing these services for 14 years. The company's qualifications were reviewed and options were discussed. No action was taken and further discussion was planned for a future meeting.

Director Maneth provided a report regarding the meeting with representatives from Caterpillar, Inc. of Victoria, Texas. Director Maneth and YISD Superintendent Tom Kelley met with John Jones and Chris Hightsman of Caterpillar to discuss training possibilities that could be incorporated for Yoakum High School students that would help prepare them for employment in the manufacturing industry. YEDC is to continue to monitor the possibilities of partnering with the School District for potential educational programs. Information was also recommended to the Board from a citizen that expressed the need for high school students to be provided with basic financial education.

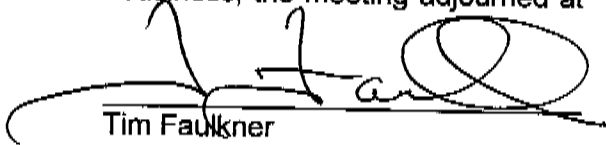
Discussion was held regarding an agreement with TIP Strategies for strategic planning services. The scope of work was reviewed. At the conclusion of the discussion, Director Maneth made a motion authorizing the President to execute the Consulting Agreement with TIP

Strategies, Inc. to perform economic development strategic planning services. Motion was seconded by Director Hermann and carried unanimously.


Three new retail programs were discussed to encourage retail business: 1) New Retail Business, 2) Vacant/Underutilized Buildings, and 3) Extended Business Hours. After review and discussion, Director Barre made a motion to approve the programs as presented, amend the budget to allocate for funding of the programs, and to cap the annual expenditure for these grants at \$50,000 per year for all programs combined. Second was made by Director Rodriguez. Motion carried unanimously.

Under the Economic/Community Development Coordinator Status Report, the March and April 2014 Texas Comptroller Sales Tax Comparison Monthly Report was provided for review. An update was provided on the 2014 Business Enhancement Programs: of the 15 awarded projects, four (4) are complete; there is currently 6 months remaining in the fiscal year for the remaining applicants to complete the awarded projects. Contact has been made with all of the applicants to make them aware of the time constraints. Mr. Brandon Cooper of Cooper Auto was present at the Governor's Small Business Forum held in La Vernia, Texas on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 to accept Yoakum's 2014 Small Business of the Year Award. A report was provided on the University of Texas at San Antonio's Eagle Ford Shale Community Development Program held in Yorktown, Texas on Thursday, April 3, 2014: at that meeting discussion was held regarding a joint tourism billboard featuring Yoakum and certain surrounding cities; other ideas from a county level were presented. E/CD Coordinator Kennedy provided information on the I-10 Corridor Association Annual Meeting held in Luling, Texas on Friday, April 11, 2014. The Association has one fund raiser each year where each represented community is requested to provide a basket to be auctioned off. Eddy Packing Company provided a filled basket to donate; and the Association is still working on a strategic plan for the group. Invitations were provided to the Gonzales Area Development Corporation Industrial Luncheon to be held on April 15, 2014 at 11:30 AM in Gonzales, Texas; to tour the Port of Corpus Christi on May 1, 2014 extended from GVEC; and to the Leadercast Victoria on May 9, 2014 in Victoria, Texas. Notice was provided of the ribbon cutting to be held for Ernie's Detail Shop on April 16, 2014 at 10:00 AM (312 Front Street).

The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 11:30 AM on Monday, May 12, 2014 in the City Hall Conference Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.


Tim Faulkner
President

Attest:


Theresa A. Bowe
City Clerk

