

**Athens Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors
Minutes for November 19, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereafter referred to as AEDC) held a Board Meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 in the Derek D. Daniels Room of the Athens Partnership Center located at 201 W. Corsicana Street, Athens, Texas.

Directors present: John Trent, Carmen Hunt, Randy Jones, Danny Tidmore, Morgan Jones, and Will Traxson

Staff present: Valerie Franklin

Ex-Officio: Mayor Monte Montgomery, City Manager Elizabeth Borstad

Guests: Councilmember Aaron Smith, Councilmember Robert Gross, Councilwoman Toni Clay, Rich Flowers

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Will Traxson for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Mayor Monte Montgomery stated he would step out on item #16.

Public Communications

None.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of Minutes from AEDC Board Meeting October 15, 2019

A motion was made by Carmen Hunt to approve the October 15, 2019 minutes. It was seconded by John Trent. The motion carried 6-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of October 2019 Financials

A motion was made by John Trent to approve the October 2019 Financials. It was seconded by Danny Tidmore. The motion carried 6-0.

Consider discussion and possible action concerning AEDC Grant Programs:

A. Business Assistance Grants

B. Community Development Grants

John Trent stated a committee of Carmen Hunt, Randy Jones and himself met by phone and talked. Under the current guidelines, the line items have been removed from the budget but the monies have not been removed and if we have a grant project to be funded, it would be two-step process where it would be presented the grant request to the city and also make a request that the budget be amended. He also spoke to Ms. Borstad and feels there needs to be a meeting between the city and the AEDC board or a committee formed by council and the board to better define the perimeters.

Elizabeth Borstad talked about putting all grant programs on the table and maybe combining some of them and having all grants come from one location. Randy Jones stated he would like to see one application with representation from both the city and the AEDC to streamline the process.

There was discussion on forming a committee. Councilman Smith, Councilman Gross along with City Manager Borstad will meet with Committee members John Trent, Carmen Hunt and Randy Jones along with Executive Director Joan Ahlers. This is to be placed on the January 2020 Agenda.

Consider discussion and possible action on the surplus equipment at 414 W College Street

President Will Traxson stated there are some items the school could use. City Manager Elizabeth Borstad stated she would verify how the items are to be surplused and donated to the School District.

A motion was made by Carmen Hunt to declare all equipment at 414 W College Street as surplus equipment. A second was made by Morgan Jones. Director Randy Jones abstained. The motion passed 5-0.

Consider discussion and possible action in regards to the tax suit filed against Poseidon Productions, Incorporated, also known as Extreme Engineering

City Manager Borstad discussed options discussed with AEDC Attorney, Jeff Moore. Taxes have not been paid on two properties. The proper notice will be filed. There was discussion and no further action was taken.

Consider discussion and possible action appointing a Board member to the Investment Committee

John Trent nominated Randy Jones to be on the Investment Committee. It was seconded by Carmen Hunt. The motion carried 6-0.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding a CD currently deposited with Citizens State Bank maturing December 7, 2019

No action was taken.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the remainder of draw request #7 for Biomeics for the amount of \$6,011.96

A motion was made by Randy Jones to pay draw request #7 in the amount of \$6,011.96. It was seconded by John Trent. Danny Tidmore opposed, and the motion passed 5-1.

Consider discussion and possible action concerning usage of Athens Partnership Center Conference rooms

A motion was made by Danny Tidmore to adopt the current policy presented for the Athens Partnership Center for rental of conference room. It was seconded by John Trent. Opposed by Carmen Hunt. The motion passed 5-1.

Carmen Hunt stated we are dealing with money and felt someone would have to be responsible for collecting the money and it would be an administrative burden that has to fall on a city employee.

Consider discussion and possible action concerning the development of a Police Station Steering Committee

City Manager Elizabeth Borstad stated she had discussed this concern with Jeff Moore and he stated EDC money needs to be used to retain or gain additional jobs based on manufacturing. EDC could alleviate some of the city's burden by participating in such as parks and recreation. There was further discussion. No further action was taken.

Mayor Montgomery stated he felt like it needs to be a bond issue. He is not in favor of using CO funds. There was further discussion and no action was taken.

Randy Jones stated he would like to see the city in a leadership role.

No further action was taken.

Consider discussion and possible action concerning the Requests for Qualifications for Police Station Facilities

No further action was taken.

Consider discussion and possible action concerning updating of the AEDC website and branding logo

President Will Traxson talked about the website being underutilized that the logo is away from any colors for the city. He informed the Board he wanted to be proactive and wants Joanne to be involved. He believes the website needed to be updated. No further action was taken.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to the Texas Government Code:

- A. Section 551.087 – Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations:
Deliberations regarding negotiations with the following prospects:
Prospect #1798**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 11:13 A.M.

The Board re-convened in open session at 11:37 A.M.

Consider and discussion and possible action on items discussed under Agenda item 16

Prospect #1798

No action was taken.

AEDC Board of Director’s request for future agenda items.

Water and sewer for Winter’s Oil

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Carmen Hunt, Secretary

John Trent, Vice-President