



Athens Economic Development Corporation

Board of Directors

Monthly Board Meeting

October 19, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereinafter referred to as AEDC) held a monthly board meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 10 am in the Derek D. Daniels Room of the Athens Partnership Center located at 201 W Corsicana Street, Athens, Texas.

Directors' present: John Trent, Randy Jones, Donna Meredith, Joe Mike Murphy, Cliff Bomer and Mark Ferrell

Staff Present Joanie Ahlers, Executive Director and Valerie Franklin, Office Manager

Ex-Officio: City Manager Elizabeth Borstad, Mayor Toni Clay, Councilmen Robert Gross, Aaron Smith and Mark Carroll

Guest: Kristin Willingham and Debra Deas

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10 a. m. by Vice-president John Trent for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

Public Communication

A copy of a letter was given to board members from Carol Morton of Keep Athens Beautiful thanking the board for their contribution to the fall decorations at the Partnership center and around the Square. Mayor Clay acknowledged the display outside of the building.

Welcome to new board member Joe Mike Murphy

Vice-president John Trent welcomed new board member Joe Mike Murphy. Mr. Murphy is replacing Will Traxson who termed out on the AEDC Board.

Election of Officers

Randy Jones nominated John Trent for board president. The nomination was seconded by Mark Ferrell and no other nominations were made. The motion passed unanimously.

Donna Meredith nominated Randy Jones for Vice-president and the nomination was seconded by Cliff Bomer. There were no other nominations and the motion passed unanimously.

Randy Jones nominated Donna Meredith for Secretary and Mark Ferrell seconded. There were no other nominations and the motion passed unanimously.

John Trent nominated Cliff Bomer for Treasurer and Donna Meredith seconded. There were no other nominations and the motion passed unanimously.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of Minutes from AEDC Monthly Meeting on September 21, 2021.

Mark Ferrell made a motion to accept the September 21, 2021 monthly minutes and it was seconded by Donna Meredith. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider discussion and possible action regarding the approval of September 2021 Financials

Executive Director Ahlers explained sales tax receipts were up almost 14% from last year this time and up year over year 2.89%.

A motion was made by Randy Jones and seconded by Cliff Bomer to approve the September 2021 financials. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider discussion and possible action for removal of Will Traxson from financial accounts and add new board member Joe Mike Murphy

A motion was made by Cliff Bomer to remove Will Traxson from financial accounts and add Joe Mike Murphy. It was seconded by Randy Jones and the motion passed unanimously.

Leakage Study update Hdl Companies

This agenda item is to be tabled until next month.

Consider discussion and possible action to appoint AEDC Investment Committee

Executive Director Ahlers explained at last month's meeting the investment policy was approved but because the committee consists of the president, treasurer and an at large board member, Mandie Quigg and the Executive Director, and we have held elections, we need to update the committee.

A nomination was made by Donna Meredith for Randy Jones to be the at large board member to serve on the Investment Committee. It was seconded by Mark Ferrell. The nomination passed unanimously. The Investment committee will be John Trent, Cliff Bomer, Randy Jones, Mandie Quigg and Executive Director Joanie Ahlers.

Consider discussion and possible action for utility easement for GVD Rentals

Director Ahlers stated GVD Rentals is the company AEDC is in the process of selling property to for the

development of an apartment complex on Wood Street across from the Oakwood expansion. They need access back to Old Tyler Highway for drainage and sewer. It will not impact the Oakwood expansion.

A motion was made by Mark Ferrell and seconded by Cliff Bomer to approve the utility easement for GVD rentals.

Presentation Athens Chamber of Commerce

Director Kristin Willingham updated the AEDC board on what the Chamber of Commerce is currently doing. What the chamber does for you is specific to each business. She is focusing on engagement and has reestablished monthly luncheons, business of the month and ribbon cuttings. She is giving businesses exposure and hosting events.

There is an upcoming cornhole tournament, TVCC homecoming event, Woodforest National Bank is going to offering a financial training event, and business after hours. Ms. Willingham shared the news and events page she produces. There have been over 40 new members added to the chamber since she has arrived. She asked if anyone wants to be added to receive the chamber's email please let her know.

Director's Update

Executive Director Ahlers explained HVAC repaid both of their outstanding loans of approximately \$484,000 and are continuing with their currently project of adding another building but have consolidated their loans through 1st State Bank.

We are working on preparing bid documents for the Athens Industrial Park project. We will be working with Steritec. They are building a new parking lot next to where our drainage is going in. Steritec is going to put the pipes in now so that we don't go back later and cut them and we will pay for the pipe for about \$4,800.

The Cain Center is having their Grand re-opening tonight from 4-7pm. The ribbon cutting is at 5pm. We are sponsoring the Cain Center at \$100,000 a year for five years. The Civic Hall Executive Session Room will have our logo on it marking it as an AEDC sponsored room.

We are in the process of re-negotiating the Biomerics lease agreement. A meeting has been set with Mandie Quigg and a representative from Biomerics for tomorrow. It will include the \$200,000 loan and the by back option. They must buy the building at the end of the lease.

Director's request for future agenda items

None.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Donna Meredith, Secretary

John Trent, President