



Minutes from January 26, 2017 Board Meeting
Palestine Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors

Meeting – 11:20 am call to order

Attendance Record:

Larry Weber
Alan Herrington
Linda Dickens
John McDonald
Paul Morris
Thomas Wright

Michael Page absent

Others Attending:

Tom Manskey
Greg Laudadio
Mary Raum

A. Call to Order

The Palestine Economic Development Corporation reserves the right to convene into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed on this agenda as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations and Security Devices) and 551.087 (Economic Development) to wit:

B. Citizen Input

None

C. Consideration and Possible Action Concerning:

Motion to approve minutes from December 20, 2016 PEDC Board meeting made by Alan Herrington and seconded by Paul Morris, with unanimous vote to approve minutes.

D. Consideration and Possible Action Concerning:

Motion to approve the December 2016 Financial Report was made by Paul Morris and seconded by Linda Dickens, with unanimous vote to approve financial report.

E. Briefing and Discussion Concerning:

1. Economic Development Report

PEDC will host the Chamber Ambassador meeting on Thursday, February 9th.

2. Main Street Report

The items discussed included:

Taste of New Orleans to be held February 18, 2017

Downtown Assessment Study, Phase I received and distributed

Ivanhoe Building

FIP Grant, over 100 Façade Improvement Grant letters mailed to downtown property owners

Bat Abatement Program reminder

Resource Team needed for new Main Street event center

3. Tourism Report

The items discussed included:

Hotel occupancy up

Texas State Railroad changes and outlook

Taste of New Orleans

Meeting space

Strategic Plan for Tourism

F. Consideration and Possible Action Concerning:

Approval to send RFQ out for the consideration of Professional Legal Services. Motion made by Alan Herrington and seconded by Paul Morris, with unanimous approval for professional services funding.

G. Consideration and Possible Action Concerning:

Approval to participate in the Texas Elite 25 Program from WEDA, World Economic Development Alliance. Motion made by John McDonald and seconded by Paul Morris, with unanimous vote to approve participation requiring \$2,950 in funds for the 6 month agreement. This is a prospect generation program through the Texas Elite 25 program.

H. Consideration and Possible Action Concerning:

Contract with Palestine Area Chamber of Commerce for Small Business Development Programs

A motion was made by Linda Dickens and seconded by Alan Herrington, with unanimous vote to approve the following: Leadercast, Annual Report, and professional development, as contract stipulations for 2017.

I. Executive Session – The Board will retire into executive session pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in section 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property and Section 551.087 (Deliberations regarding economic development).

Executive Session began at 12:08 pm. Topics included:

1. Discussion regarding easement litigation
2. Pipeline update

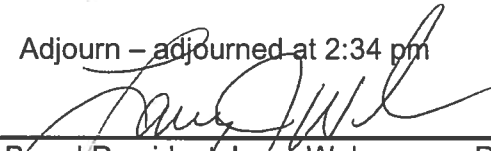
Reconvene into Open Session at 1:08 pm

J. Take action from Executive Session

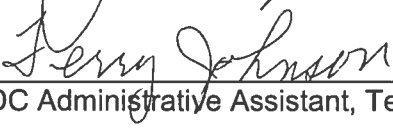
Motion made by Paul Morris and seconded by Linda Dickens with unanimous approval to approve costs for second legal opinion concerning easement litigation.

K. Conduct 2017 Mini Planning retreat – No action.

L. Adjourn – adjourned at 2:34 pm

 2-9-17 1:28 pm

PEDC Board President, Larry Weber Date Time

 2-9-17 1:29 pm

PEDC Administrative Assistant, Terry Johnson Date Time