

**Athens Economic Development Corporation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes for July 14, 2016**

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereafter referred to as AEDC) held a Regular Board Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2016, in the Derek Daniels Board Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana, Athens, Texas.

Directors present: Jess Laird, President, Maurice Cox, Carmen Hunt, Jeaneane Lilly, Cliff Barrett, John Trent, Will Traxson

Staff present: Lisa Denton, Susan Jacobs

Guests: Mayor Jerry Vaught, City of Athens

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by President Jess Laird for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

**Declaration of conflict of interest**

None stated

**Citizen Comments**

None

**Consider discussion and possible approval of minutes from the following AEDC Board Meetings:**

- A. June 17, 2016**
- B. June 22, 2016**

Maurice Cox made a motion to approve the minutes from June 17, 2016 and June 22, 2016, as presented. Will Traxson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

**Consider discussion and possible action on the following items associated with AEDC Financials:**

**Summary of June Financial Report:**

- A. Revenue**- Total revenue for the month was \$113,698.63; sales tax accounting for \$97,550.99 of that amount. Sales tax collections were down 3.72% over this time last year. Sales tax collections are up 3.66% for the year.
- B. Expenses**-Expenses for the month totaled \$36,805.61.
- C. Balance Sheet**-The Balance Sheet shows the corporation has \$2,037,112.95 in

liquid assets, as of June 30, 2016.

- D. Commitments/LTD**-AEDC has ED project commitments totaling \$1,500,989 of which \$94,213 is expected to fund by 9/30/2016, and Long Term Debt Obligations of \$2,112,985.13.

Cliff Barrett made a motion to approve the June financials. John Trent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

**Consider discussion and possible action on the following items associated with AEDC Business Assistance Grant Program**

**A. Approval of grant payment to Toni and Raymond Stanford**

Staff has reviewed compliance documentation received from Toni and Raymond Stanford for parking lot improvements at CJ's Resale Shop located at 508 W. Corsicana Street. Staff recommends approving payment of the grant in the amount of \$7,250.00.

Maurice Cox made a motion to approve payment to Toni and Raymond Stanford, in the amount of \$7,250.00, for improvements made under the business assistance grant. Jeaneane Lilly seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

**Consider discussion and possible approval of the following items associated with the Athens Industrial Park:**

**A. Clearing of public drainage easements**

Lisa Denton and Jess Laird met with Lawrence Cutrone, Interim Public Works Director with the City of Athens. Maps were reviewed and progress was made on a plan to move forward with the clearing of the easement. The timing is urgent to complete this project before September and the rainy weather in the fall. The Street Department along with Parks and Rec Department Heads and Supervisors will meet with Lisa Denton and John Trent at the easement site to discuss a plan of action on Tuesday, July 19 at 9:00am. The city's willingness to work with the AEDC on this project is greatly appreciated. This item will be reviewed at the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**B. Texas Capital Fund Grant update**

Ms. Denton presented an update to the Board. AEDC reapplied in June. As AEDC was the lone applicant in this round, and the project is eligible for funding, TDA will award the full request of \$1,000,000. TDA is awaiting the release of funds from HUD, but has asked the City of Athens to send a letter of acceptance for the project. Once the funds are in place they will forward a contract for execution.

**Consider discussion and possible action on the following marketing strategies:**

**A. Website**

Ms. Denton presented the new AEDC website. The Board was encouraged to visit the site and share comments and suggestions with staff.

**B. Retail Recruitment**

A customized questionnaire from r360 was presented to the Board for input. Replies need to be received by the following Monday for submittal to r360.

**Consider entering into Executive Session according to TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE Chapter 551 to discuss following:**

At 9:37 a.m., Jess Laird, President, announced that the Board would retire into Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE Chapter 551, in accordance with the authority contained in the following sections:

- A. Section 551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property**  
Lease of real property located at:  
201 W. Corsicana Street
- B. Section 551.087 - Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations with the following prospects:**  
Prospect #1522  
Prospect #1540

**Reconvene into Open Session and take any action resulting from Executive Session.**

The board reconvened into Open Session at 10:10 a.m.

**With no further action to be taken, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.**

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Jess Laird, President

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Carmen Hunt, Secretary