

STATE OF TEXAS X
COUNTY OF SWISHER X
CITY OF TULIA X

ON the 7th day of April 2014, the Economic Development Commission for the City of Tulia met in the City Council Chambers at 12:00 p.m.

Present were:	Pat George	President
	Andrew Freeman	Executive Director
	Marcus Scarborough	Director
	Ross James	Director
	Boyd Vaughn	Director

Also present was:	Kristina Solomon	City Secretary
	Matty McClain	Leading EDG

Absent was:	Amy McAtee	Vice President
	Don Adams	Director
	Josh Moore	Director

ITEM I: CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Pat George called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

ITEM II: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments at this time.

ITEM III: CONSIDER AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 28, 2014 MEETING

Ross James made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. A second was made by Boyd Vaughn and passed with a 4-0 vote.

ITEM IV: LEADING EDG - MATTY MCCLAIN - QUARTERLY UPDATE

Matty gave an update on the projects he is currently working on. He stated he was working with Maria Basaldua who had previously considered purchasing the old Peggy's Fire Pit building but has now rented the former Panhandle Community Services location for her Zumba classes. She has renovated it to fit her needs and has begun offering Zumba classes for adults and kids. She has a daycare available during her classes for those who need to bring their kids. She is also

thinking about opening up a juice bar in the front part of the building. He is also helping the owner of Shirley's cleaners with the possible sell of her business. They are working on placing a value on the business to find a competitive price to list it for sale. He is also working with Tim McAtee who is interested in opening a security business to be based out of Tulia. He has 2 other partners out of state who would be involved as well. The business is similar to what Tim does now, he would just open his own business. Matty also gave an update on The Station. They continue to move forward with the improvements and modifications needed to open the restaurant. They are on this month's agenda to request a revolving loan from the city as well as with the county again. Matty feels they could be successful. He can't speak for their credit worthiness but says they are very hard working, resourceful people. He also mentioned he had been approached by a gentleman from Nazareth about opening another meat processing plant in Tulia.

Pat asked if he had worked with Cameron. Matty said they spoke briefly in the past. Pat feels they could benefit from an EDC revolving loan and there may have been a misunderstanding from Cameron during his last meeting with Matty. Pat asked that Matty meet with him again.

ITEM V: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING LOAN REQUESTS

Andrew states this item was discussed in Item IV so it can be skipped and move on to Item VI.

ITEM VI: CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING SUPPORT FOR YMCA STRONG KIDS CAMPAIGN

Andrew states last year the EDC contributed \$2,000 toward the strong kid's campaign. The money was to be used for scholarship purposes for kids who could not afford to participate in the youth activities. Everyone agreed it was something they would like to continue to support if Andrew would request a report of how the money was used last year.

Marcus Scarborough made a motion to contribute \$2,000 to the YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign contingent upon Andrew receiving a report detailing how the money was spent last year and it still meets the EDC's requests. A second was made by Ross James and passed with a 4-0 vote.

ITEM VII: CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING COST PARTICIPATION FOR NEW T-BALL FIELDS

Andrew states the parks department has plans to build 2 new T-ball fields located to the north between the big baseball field and the smaller softball fields. Andrew feels this would be a great project the EDC could contribute to for community development. The creation of 2 new parks would be a great asset to the community. The fields would be specifically for T-ball therefore the fields will be smaller with a shorter outfield. The cost for the parks is \$7,000. The city would be paying for the difference.

Marcus Scarborough made a motion to contribute \$3,500 toward the new T-ball fields. A second was made by Boyd Vaughn and passed with a 4-0 vote.

ITEM VIII: DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING PEGGY'S FIRE PIT (122 N. MAXWELL)

The original purchasers of the building decided against the purchase. Andrew spoke with Joshua Moore who was also interested in buying the building but has also changed his mind. Andrew still thinks it could be a good buy for the EDC to have available in case a future business would like to open there. Andrew asks the EDC if they would like to proceed with trying to obtain the building. The board feels like it would be beneficial to have however they would like to wait a month or two before making an offer.

ITEM IX: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING LOCAL OPTION LIQUOR ELECTION

Andrew wanted to get feedback from the EDC board on how they felt about moving forward in attempts for a local option liquor election that would allow for alcohol sales in restaurants located in the city limits. The application would only need 10 participants to sign and a petition with 263 signatures. The board felt it was a good idea especially if it would help increase sales tax for the city. They felt since sales are already allowed at stores, it seems natural to allow them in restaurants.

Boyd Vaughn made a motion to proceed with further research into a local option liquor election. A second was made by Marcus Scarborough and passed with a 4-0 vote.

ITEM X: COMMENTS FROM EDC BOARD MEMBERS/DIRECTOR

- WEBSITE UPDATES-Andrew stated he has been working on updating the website to offer more links and information
- TEXAS COMMUNITIES GROUP UPDATE- The website is almost live, it will be set up for local community groups to be able to access and send information about properties they have concerns with and will have a list of properties available. Signs have been ordered to place at the properties.
- HIGH GROUND OF TEXAS ADVERTISING UPDATE-Andrew is working with 2 separate advertising postings that will list Tulia and what it has to offer.
- EDC DIRECTOR TRAINING WEEK OF MAY 5th Andrew will be out for training this week
- ANNOUNCEMENTS-Pat mentioned Iberdrola changed names to Windstream or something similar, he also mentioned he and Shawn Cannon would be working together to get a wind lease in Swisher County.
- DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING-Next meeting will be June 2nd unless required sooner.

ITEM XI: ADJOURN

Pat George adjourned the meeting at 12:47 p.m.

Pat George, President

ATTEST:

Kristina Solomon, City Secretary