

**SANTA FE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2021 6:30 P.M.
SANTA FE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6 SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:32p.m. by Fidencio Leija, Jr.

2. Roll Call: Fidencio Leija, Jr.
 Matt Crable
 Ashley Carner
 Robert Bracknell
 Greg Vicknair, late arrival
 Bob Wylie, Absent
 Blu Baillio
 Stacey Baker, Director Absent

3. The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was given by Matt Crable.

4. Citizens Comments - None

5. Reports:

a. Presentation and approval of minutes: December 1, 2020

A motion was made by Matt Crable and second by Ashley Carner to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Business

a. Discussion and possible action: Discuss a Business Expansion and Retention (BRE) Committee in partnership with the Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce Board and non-chamber members and to establish a Business Expansion and Retention Program plan.

Fidencio Leija advised that during the workshop it was discussed to A – form a committee with 3 current EDC board members, the chamber board, and business owners be on the committee and decide best practices or rules, B – establish a committee but put it on hold until the election is over or option C – not to establish this at all. An alternate option could also be that the chamber can take on the responsibility and a few EDC board members could be on it. After a brief discussion regarding the upcoming busy schedule and not having the full capability to properly market the program, or to possibly table the matter until the election was over and revisit the matter sometime in July or August.

Matt Crable motioned to postpone the BRE discussion until the July quarter. The motioned was seconded by Robert Bracknell and passed unanimously.

b. Discussion and possible action: Discuss and adopt an election message

Matt Crable advised that all board members must have the same mission statement to push the EDC's proposition and it was going to take the full commitment of the board. After a long discussion it was decided that the mission statement may be similar to "By expanding our bylaws the EDC can invest in supporting our local businesses, develop future plans, and continue to improve infrastructure." The bullet points in the presentation may have 1. Does not cost money 2. Does not increase the existing local sales and use tax rate 3. Remind people that we as a board make recommendation to City Council and citizens will have 60 days to make comments regarding a proposed project, and this is mandated by state law 4. Support businesses by creating a BRE program (maybe use this). Use supporting examples next to the bullet points. The proposition should be available for review. *The no increase in taxes needs to be emphasized upon during the presentation and mission statement.* The presentation should include the development, making recommendations to city council, and administering the funds to local businesses from the CARES ACT funded to the city.

A motion was made by Greg Vicknair and seconded by Blu Baillio to approve the statement or election message "Without increasing the existing local sales and use tax rate, the EDC is proposing to expand its bylaws to allow the EDC to invest and support our local businesses, develop future plans, and continue to improve our infrastructure." The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion and possible action: Schedule townhall meetings

Fidencio advised that the Thelma Webber Center, the fire station, and Day Spring Church are possible locations for the townhall meetings. He spoke with Brad Drake and asked if the Ministerial Alliance will support with getting the word out along with talking to the fire station and booster clubs. Gina Bouvier advised she scheduled the EDC to be the speakers at the March Chamber luncheon. Early voting starts on April 19 and all townhalls need to take place before that. Matt Crable advised he would like to meet late in March and early in April. Matt advised the week of March 29 and the week of April 12 would be ideal, pending available locations. Every two weeks would be a function. The fire station and VFW will also be meeting in this time frame and we can attend these meetings. Fidencio and Matt advised we may reach out to sporting groups, previous EDC board members, and random people you know to get the word out about the election and townhall meetings. We need to build a relationship with the community. There was a brief discussion about the amount of voters that actually vote. It was decided to try to use the fire station(evening), Day Spring Church (lunch time), and Thelma Webber as an alternate location. The Chamber luncheon should be March 10.

A motion was made by Greg Vicknair and second by Robert Bracknell to schedule two townhall meetings between March 29 and April 12 pending facility availability. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Discussion and possible action: Set a budget or goal toward drainage projects

Matt and Fidencio advised that the budget or goal should be set for future projects, not just drainage. Per what was discussed in the workshop, it was decided to focus on trying to set a goal of amount of money to spend on future infrastructure. This amount does not have to be spent this year, it is just what the EDC may be willing to spend pending each different project. Each project will need to be proposed to the EDC and forwarded to city council for review.

A motion was made by Matt Crable to consider future infrastructure projects at a maximum of \$650,000 for the 2021 year. The motion was seconded by Ashley Carner and passed unanimously.

e. Discussion and possible action: Ratify the request made to City Council to call the election on January 14, 2021 agenda for the EDC special election/expansion proposition to be placed on the May 2021 ballot

Fidencio advised that the request is being ratified because the matter had to be placed on the City Council ballot prior to this meeting due to filing deadlines being earlier than anticipated. The request needed to be updated and placed in the minutes. Ashley pointed out that nothing has changed that was previously discussed.

A motion was made by Ashley Carner and seconded by Blue Baillio to ratify the request to council to call the special election. The motion passed unanimously.

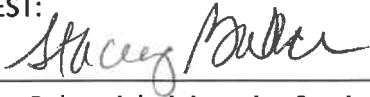
7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ashley Carner and Robert Bracknell to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Fidencio Leija, Jr., President

ATTEST:



Stacey Baker, Administrative Services Director