

EASTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INC.
BOARD MEETING
November 9, 2020

The Eastland Economic Development, Inc. Board of Directors met in the Commission Chambers at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

Members Present:

Board Member _____	Vicki Bradley
Board Member _____	Carolyn White
Board Member _____	James Doyle
Board Member _____	Jason Cochran
Executive Director _____	Tom Bailey
Board Member _____	Mark Pipkin

City Staff Present:

City Secretary _____	Roma Holley
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Guests: Laura Hobbs, Donald Cate

I. Meeting Called to Order

Vicki Bradley called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was offered by Tom Bailey and Carolyn White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Finance Report

Donald Cate reviewed the income and expense report for the month of October. He noted no unusual expenditures or income for the months. Operating expenses are within normal bounds. He stated that the Sales tax has increased approximately 1.2% over October 2019.

Jason Cochran made a motion, seconded by Mark Pipkin, to approve the finance report as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White

Nays: None

Absent: None

IV. Approve Minutes of the October 13, 2020 and October 19, 2020 meetings.

Mark Pipkin made a motion, seconded by Jason Cochran, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

V. Public Comment on any subject not Listed on this Agenda
 (Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

There were no comments.

VI. Report from Laura Hobbs, Eastland Chamber of Commerce

Laura Hobbs, Executive Director of the Eastland Chamber of Commerce, gave an update of the activities from the past year. The COVID-19 Pandemic has curtailed and changed the way a lot of the activities were conducted but overall, 2020 has still been a very productive year.

Events/Activities in 2020:

- Sent updates for COVID-19 restrictions and regulations from local and state officials.
- Made a “Take-Out Blitz” Menu with all local restaurants that can be found on our website and Facebook Page.
- Produced and distributed the 2020 Membership Directory and Community Guide
- Started a yearly advertising package for Annual Sponsors
- Worked with Root and Roam, as well as local videographers and recording studios, to produce promotional videos for Eastland that can be viewed on our Facebook Page and YouTube.
- Hosted the Annual Golden Deed Awards Banquet on March 6th
- Hosted the Online Easter Coloring Contest and Quarantine Scavenger Hunt in April.
- Hosted an online shopping event through Social Media in April.
- Hosted the 4th of July Boat Parade with the help of Outdoor Specialties
- Assisted with the Eastland County Food Pantry fundraiser by teaming up with Blake Fulenwider CDJR and First Financial Bank to raise over \$8,000.00.
- Assisted with the EHS Seniors Graduation Parade in May and Teacher’s Send Off Parade in August.
- Started a shop local campaign, “I Got Receipts,” which promotes all Chamber Members. The campaign began August 1st and continues through December 1st.
 End of Week 12 of “I Got Receipts” Totals: \$38,1087.94 worth of receipts have been entered into the contest.

- We have Started the Junior Ambassadors Program for 2020-2021 with Eastland High School Seniors. We have 6 Seniors participating in the leadership/ambassador program.
- Hosted the first Rip's Mini Market in October and will continue in November and December.

Upcoming Events, Activities, and Goals for the rest of 2020 and 2021:

- Planning towards a large turnout for the Lighted Christmas Parade and One Starry Night
- Drawing for the winners of "I Got Receipts" Shop Local Campaign
- Hosting November and December Rip's Mini Markets on the Downtown Square in Eastland those dates are November 14th and December 12th.
- Starting production of the 2021 Chamber Directory and Community Guide soon
- Running a TV Tourism Promotion with KTAB that should go live the middle of this week.
- Selling new Rip-Off 2020 T-shirts starting this weekend.

2021 Events: - Annual Events:

- Golden Deed Awards Banquet
- Rip's Ribs Cookoff & Wine Festival
- 4th of July Boat Parade
- Old Rip Pageant, RipFest & Old Rip Parade

VII. Executive Director's Report – Update on projects and activities

Director Tom Bailey gave very brief updates on several ongoing projects:

Internet

Richard Barron Group – Zoom meeting last week.

Totelcom – Working on pole accessibility survey and hope to be finished by the end of Nov.

El Reno – Almost finished moving to the back of the Business Park. Making improvements to the location and planning to use some of the green fence.

Oncor – Electricity in the Business Park

Bill Whaley is using the load information from Bartee and Raitz to get us the best financial option.

Bartee Metals – The filed **ROW abandonment** has been sent to EHT for inclusion in the 5 ac. field notes. Once complete, Bartee will move its current manufacturing and sales operations to the new site. Until the new facility is finished, Bartee will operate its sales and manufacturing from the Morgan Building.

Red Star – The new travel center is really turning into something special! This is going to be a first-class operation that will create jobs and bring in a lot of sales tax.

Kirkland-Mighty Molding- Development Agreement is fully executed and Eileen is preparing documents.

U.S. Sand & Gravel – The Development Agreement has been fully executed and Eileen is preparing the legal documents.

Anipro Feeds- This is Jonathon Haralson's group who moved into the Quonset building at the Morgan site. Jonathon reports business is going well and the facility is meeting their needs.

Blake Fulenwider Dodge/Jeep -

We will soon have about 80 jobs in the Business Park

VIII. Adjournment

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by James Doyle to adjourn at 12:44 p.m. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White

Nays: None

Absent: None

Approved:

Vicki Bradley, Chairman
EEDI Board

Attest:

Roma Holley, City Secretary