

EASTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INC.
BOARD MEETING
August 14, 2023

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 _____	Terry Slavens
Board Member _____	Mark Pipkin
Board Member _____	Carolyn White

Executive Director:

_____ Ryder Warren

Members Absent:

Board Member _____	Vicki Bradley
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City Staff Present:

City Manager _____	J.J. Oznick
City Secretary _____	Roma Holley

Guests: Donnie Cate, Larry Vernon

I. Meeting Called to Order

Mark Pipkin called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was offered by Terry Slavens and Carolyn White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Eastland City Commission Chairman Larry Vernon spoke to the Board. He expressed the appreciation for all the vision of the Eastland Economic Development Board. He shared a graph showing the sales tax from the month of July 2023. He said it is the highest it's ever been. This is due in part to all of the economic growth brought about by this Board. He stated that it is important that this be recognized.

IV. Finance Report

Donald Cate presented the report with the normal income and expenditures. He also noted the sales tax shows an increase of 3.7% for the month of July and 9.1% increase for the year.

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by Terry Slavens, to approve the finance report as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, Slavens, White

Nays: None

Absent: Bradley

V. Approve Minutes of the July 14, 2023 meeting

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by Terry Slavens to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2023 meeting. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, Slavens, White

Nays: None

Absent: Bradley

VI. The EEDI Board of Directors May Discuss and Take Action on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of new EEDI Board Member recommendation.

Executive Session in accordance with Texas Government Code § 551.074, Personnel

Commence: 12:07 P.M.

Conclude: 12:11 P.M.

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by Terry Slavens, to recommend to the Eastland City Commission that Matthew Crum be approved as a member of the EEDI. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, Slavens, White

Nays: None

Absent: Bradley

2. Discussion and Possible Approval Funding Chamber of Commerce "Old Rip" Marketing Project

Executive Director Ryder Warren stated that Chamber of Commerce Director Tiffany Beard is working on a project and may be asking for assistance in funding from the EEDI. Ms. Beard will present the project at a later date, but the basic proposal is for the purchase of a "Kickin' Rip" mascot costume to be used to help market Eastland. This will benefit everyone involved and is within the scope of Economic Development rules for assistance. More information forthcoming.

No Action Taken

3. Discussion and Possible Approval of Moving September Meeting Date

Executive Director Ryder Warren explained to the board that he will be taking an Alaskan Cruise and will not be available on September 11 and asked if it would be acceptable to move the meeting to the 18th.

Terry Slavens made a motion, seconded by Carolyn White, to approve moving the September meeting to September 18, 2023. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, Slavens, White
Nays: None
Absent: Bradley

VII. Executive Director's Report – Discussion of Strategic Planning Process

Executive Director Ryder Warren provided an update for three projects EEDI is involved in:

He stated that within the next couple of weeks, he will be meeting with Eastland County Tax Appraiser Randy Clark and Developer Nicholas Petroff to work out the details of the assistance EEDI will be providing to the new County Appraisal District building and new addition that is being developed. Mark Pipkin stated that the initial speculation is EEDI will be help with funding for 300 feet of roadway leading from the Eastland County Crisis Center to the new Appraisal District building.

Executive Director Ryder Warren also spoke about a meeting that City Manager JJ Oznick and himself attended in Comanche at TOTELCOM. He stated they were very impressed with their operation and are still looking forward to TOTELCOM coming to Eastland.

Executive Director Ryder Warren shared with the board that he had approved an additional three-month lease to Troy Construction for the lot in the Eastland Business Park. This lease will run through November.

VIII. Adjournment

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by Terry Slavens to adjourn at 12:25 p.m. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, Slavens, White
Nays: None
Absent: Bradley

Approved:

Vicki Bradley, Chairman
EEDI Board

Attest:

Roma Holley, City Secretary