

Meeting Minutes
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

The regular meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation was called to order by Robert A. Neely, M.D. at 5:00 P.M., Monday, January 22, 2001, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Dr. Neely introduced the members of the Board and called for election of new officers.

Present were Gary Byrd; John B. Harle; Fritz Nelius, Wayne Browning and David Ottmer. A quorum was present.

Gary Byrd nominated David Ottmer for the office of Chairman. The nomination was seconded by John Harle and carried unanimously. Mr. Ottmer assumed the chair and Dr. Neely excused himself from the remainder of the proceedings.

Fritz Nelius nominated John Harle for the office of Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Gary Byrd and carried unanimously.

Gary Byrd stated he would be happy to serve as Treasurer for another year. John Harle nominated him for the office and the nomination was seconded by Fritz Nelius. It also carried unanimously.

Fritz Nelius nominated John Harle to continue in the position of Parliamentarian. The nomination was seconded by Gary Byrd. Following discussion of the merits of one board member serving in two offices, Wayne Browning made a motion to table this portion of the election of officers until the February 12, 2001 meeting. Fritz Nelius withdrew his nomination of John Harle and this action was seconded by Gary Byrd.

John Harle made a motion the Agenda be approved as posted. The motion was seconded by Fritz Nelius and carried unanimously.

Gary Byrd made a motion the Minutes of the December 11th, 2000 Regular Meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Fritz Nelius and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report for November, 2000 was presented by Gary Byrd and is attached to these minutes. The beginning balance was \$182,241.24; the ending statement balance was \$182,905.23 with an ending checkbook balance of \$182,894.73. Fritz Nelius made a motion the report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by John Harle and carried unanimously.

Gary Byrd also presented the Treasurer's Report for December, 2000 which showed a statement balance of \$210,603.33 on December 31, 2000 and a checkbook balance of \$210,592.83 on the same date. A check written to Michael Villeneuve in the amount of \$10.50 back in May for photo developing has not cleared yet and will be investigated. Checks issued since December 31 total \$25,106.50 and include the grant to Bellville Properties in the amount of \$25,000.00, \$40.00 to Suzanne Edwards and \$66.50 to The Bellville Times. The ending checkbook balance as of January 22, 2001 is \$185,486.33. A question was raised regarding the difference in the sales tax receipts from the city for November and December. Lynn Roberts, City Administrator, stated the checks for sales tax receipts run about two months behind and average \$12,500.00. The receipts for December will not be received until February. John Harle made the motion to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Fritz Nelius and carried unanimously. This report is attached to the minutes.

Lastly, Gary Byrd presented copies of the Economic Development Corporation Report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2000 which was sent to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. Revenues through August 31, 2000 totaled \$165,100.21; expenditures totaled \$80,349.91. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

Agenda Item # 7

Public Comment

Ellen Lancaster requested to speak to the Board on behalf of The Boys & Girls Club of Bellville. She distributed applications requesting \$20,000.00 for the operating budget of the club. A qualification of a \$60,000.00 grant from the Criminal Justice Division of the State of Texas is that the grant amount be matched locally. Ms. Lancaster projects contributions in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the community including the Bluebonnet Society. She is seeking the additional \$20,000.00 from the BEDC. The application will be posted for sixty days and will be considered by the Board on April 9, 2001.

Jim Bishop introduced Mrs. Lana Johnson and presented her applications to the BEDC from The Bellville Trading Company, a new retail venture, in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the remodeling of a

historic building on Courthouse Square. This application also will be posted for sixty days and will be considered by the Board on April 9, 2001.

Agenda Item #8

Consideration and Action Regarding the Request for Funding from The City of Bellville for Architectural and Engineering Services to Produce Plans and Specifications for a Proposed Civic Pavilion

Jim Bishop also represented the City for the consideration of this funding request. He distributed copies of a letter from James P. O’Jibway, President of the First State Bank of Texas, regarding the donation of the land for the project and asked that the letter be placed into the record of the Board. Several questions were raised from EDC Board members including Gary Byrd who asked if it was the intent of the city to later apply for funds to build the pavilion. Mr. Bishop responded it was, though initial construction funds would be borrowed from local banks. Only \$19,500.00 is being requested today. Wayne Browning asked if the Park Board would be applying for grants also. Mr. Bishop responded it was possible. Fritz Nelius inquired if the EDC would be the sole place for funding of the project. Mr. Bishop stated help would be sought from other agencies such as the LCRA. John Harle made a motion the request for \$19,500.00 be granted. The motion was seconded by Fritz Nelius and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9

Status Report from Economic Development Specialist Search Committee

Clay Kistler announced the members of the Search Committee to be himself as well as Bruce White, Margie Lovell, Ian Bader, and Mike Mueller. John Harle will serve as a member representing the Bellville Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Kistler stated a perception exists that City Council’s position on beginning a search for an Economic Development Specialist is unclear. He was reassured City Council had authorized an expenditure of up to \$5,000.00 for such a search. Mr. Kistler said the committee would like to advertise for the position. John Harle made a motion the EDC Board approve the expenditure for a search for an Economic Development Specialist. Wayne Browning seconded the motion; it carried unanimously. Mr. Kistler stated the first meeting of the committee would be scheduled right away and ads would be drawn up.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary