

Meeting Minutes
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

The regular meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation was called to order by David Ottmer at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, December 11, 2001, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were Wayne Browning, David Ottmer, Gary Byrd, Susan Jones, Kenneth Stein and Bruce White. A quorum was present.

Wayne Browning made a motion the meeting Agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by Gary Byrd and carried unanimously.

Wayne Browning also made a motion the minutes of the November 13, 2001 regular meeting be approved as presented. Bruce White provided the second to the motion and it carried unanimously.

Gary Byrd gave the Treasurer's Report for November. A checkbook balance of \$169,976.72 was reported for October 31, 2001. A checkbook balance in the amount of \$181,204.95 was reported for December 11, 2001. The last portion of the grant to Hershel & Wendy Smith and the recording fee to Suzanne Edwards are the last checks written. Gary also reported changes in the interest rates received from First National Bank. A copy of the Bank's letter is attached to the Treasurer's Report. Kenneth Stein made the motion to accept the report as presented. Susan Jones seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item # 6

Public Comment

Jerome Peters was present and stated the BEDC notebook at the City Library needed to be updated. He also suggested a one-page summary of expenditures to date be included in the notebook. David Ottmer explained there were no applications outstanding at this time and that the BEDC was in the process of revising the application package. The suggestion of including a one-page summary of expenditures was thought to have some merit and will be taken under advisement in the preparation of the new application package.

City Administrator, Lynn Roberts asked if the grant to Bellville Trading Company had been returned to the BEDC and was told it had not. David Ottmer will follow up on the letter mailed to Lana Johnson and Jim Bishop on November 15, 2001.

Agenda Item # 7

Consideration of any Action Necessary and Related to the
Organization and Operation of a Corporation formed under Chapter 4B of the
Economic Development Act of 1979, as Amended

- 7(a,b). Consider revised resolution prepared by John Harle concerning an amendment to BEDC policies and procedures related to funds not expended for purposes granted. No further action is necessary as the amendment was approved at the November 13, 2001 meeting.**

The prepared amendment was distributed to the Board members present. The first question asked was if the new amendment would apply only to funds outstanding. The answer given was 'yes' as the new policy of the BEDC will only allow disbursement of funds with a receipt following inspection of the work performed and with the approval of the Board. Frank Rodriguez will serve as inspector on behalf of the city and will note specifics of deficiencies. This policy will be included with the new application procedures to be developed. It was suggested and accepted by the Board members that the recipients of BEDC funds would need to come before the Board at a regularly scheduled meetings to receive funds. This process also is to be included in the new application procedures.

- 7(c,d). Consider revised application for BEDC funds as prepared by ad hoc committee and any action taken concerning the revision.**

The Board discussed important points to be included in the application package. There was a question as to whether or not a personal financial statement should be requested of an applicant. But, it was generally felt this might be an invasion of privacy as everything submitted by an applicant becomes public record. Lynn Roberts, City Administrator, asked if the Board members had considered only reimbursement of applicants' funds already spent on a project. Discussion then ensued regarding the purpose of BEDC. Kenneth Stein asked if the BEDC is to help new businesses get started? Bruce White stated the Board could fund infrastructure only if it so desired and no funds be disbursed to new business applicants. Susan Jones cautioned we should definitely see progress before any money is disbursed. She also stated her opinion the BEDC is not required to provide seed money in order to insure the success of a new business. Rather, the BEDC should invest in an endeavor only after the applicants have invested in the project. Since no new applications will be accepted until March, it was generally agreed the Board needed to keep working on the revision of the application. Wayne Browning made a motion further action on the revised application be tabled until the next meeting on January 8th which could be considered a workshop meeting specifically for that purpose. This motion was seconded by Gary Byrd and was approved unanimously.

New Business

Lynn Roberts mentioned appointments to the Board would be confirmed at the next City Council meeting. David Ottmer, John Harle and Gary Byrd will be considered for reappointment.

Susan Jones volunteered to serve as the Treasurer of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation as the current Treasurer, Gary Byrd, is traveling extensively and may be forced to miss BEDC meetings from time to time.

Kenneth Stein asked that a summary of all grants given by the BEDC be prepared. Susan Jones agreed to put this summary together from the treasurer's records.

Frank Rodriguez will be asked to make an inspection of the progress of The Family Entertainment Center in Bell Oaks Shopping Center. David Ottmer will accompany Frank on this inspection if possible. Also, David Ottmer volunteered to follow up with Jim Bishop or Lana Johnson on the return of the funds given for The Bellville Trading Company.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary