

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, February 12, 2002, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were David Ottmer, Susan Jones, Kenneth Stein, Bruce White and Gary Byrd. A quorum was present. Wayne Browning was absent. John Harle has submitted a letter of resignation.

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

Gary Byrd made a motion the minutes of the January 8, 2002 regular meeting be approved as presented. Kenneth Stein provided the second to the motion and it carried unanimously.

Susan Jones presented the Treasurer's Report for January. A beginning balance of \$191,885.88 was reported for January 1, 2002. An ending balance in the amount of \$192,562.85 was reported for January 31, 2002. A check for sales tax was not received for the month of January, but one is expected for the month of February. Kenneth Stein made the motion to accept the report as presented. Bruce White seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item # 6

Public Comment

Linda Feux was present to update the BEDC on the progress of the renovation of the Women's Building at the Fairgrounds which has essentially become two projects. The first is to change a barn into a civic center which can be used for everything from an auction to a formal party. The second project came about because the building is out of code for 2002 and, though Mark Dickey has redrawn the design of the building several times, nothing can be done until all permits are received. No money has been spent from any account other than the Bluebonnet

Society's. Assistance from the city in receiving these permits in a timely manner will be appreciated so the Bluebonnet Ball can be held as planned on April 6th. Lynn Roberts advised that Frank Rodriguez had stated the permits will be approved within a week or two. Mark Dickey reported that three contractors are in the process of preparing bids. It has been determined that the installation of an elevator is too expensive to be considered at this time. A chair lift is being researched, but a one-year variance or postponement for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act from the state is being sought. Mr. Dickey thinks the walls and the ceiling can be completed in time for the April 6th Bluebonnet Ball.

David Ottmer reported he had been notified Dr. Gerald Johnson would be unable to be present for the meeting. A special called meeting with an executive session to consider potential litigation was scheduled for Wednesday, February 20th, at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item # 7

Public Hearing for the Consideration of the Letter Request from the Chamber of Commerce for \$2,500 to be Designated for Tourism and the Salaries of Two Chamber Assistants

John Harle, President of the Bellville Chamber of Commerce was present to answer any questions asked by the Board regarding the request for funds. David Ottmer stated the use of any grants to the Chamber would have to be specified only for the promotion of tourism. The state attorney general has ruled grants for operating expenses such as salaries are not allowed. Gary Byrd offered it would be beneficial for the BEDC to assist the Chamber by granting funds to be designated for specific projects such as

- • the annual Chamber banquet
- • the annual, spring garden show
- • Independence Day activities
- • Small Town Christmas

Agenda Item # 8

Action Concerning the Request of the Chamber of Commerce

Bruce White made the motion to give a grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Bellville Chamber of Commerce to be designated for use only for tourism and specific projects. Kenneth Stein seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Item # 9

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

The Board reviewed the changes made to the application package at last month's meeting and continued their work on the revision of the application.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary