

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, September 9, 2003, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were Warren Scott, David Ottmer, Kenneth Stein, Nancy Allen and Bob Simpson. Wayne Browning arrived at 5:37 p.m. A quorum was present.

Warren Scott made a motion the Agenda be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Stein. The motion carried unanimously.

Warren Scott also made a motion the Minutes of the August 12th regular meeting and the August 28th special meeting be approved as presented. Nancy Allen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Bob Simpson distributed a draft Treasurer's Report for the period July 31 through August 31 for review. The beginning balance was \$301,456.92; the ending balance was \$314,767.08. There were no outstanding invoices to be paid. Nancy Allen made a motion the Treasurer's Report be approved. Wayne Browning seconded the motion. Clay Kistler delivered an invoice for appraisal services in the amount of \$500.00. Nancy amended the motion to include payment of this outstanding invoice. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item # 7
Public Comment

There was no one present who wished to make public comment.

Agenda Item #8
Viewing of Videotape of First Annual Bellville Heritage Gathering

Tom Bennett was present to introduce the videotape. Both he and Nancy Allen were available for questions.

Agenda Item #9
Presentation of Economic Development Opportunities by Peggy Spradley, Executive Director of the Sealy Convention & Visitors Bureau

Peggy Spradley of the Sealy Convention & Visitors Bureau spoke about the projects planned for 2004 which will promote many cultural and historical facets of Austin County. She brought with her a three-part display panel for the Texas Independence Trail. This is one type of display information she takes to various trade shows. Sealy CVB and Austin County have partnered to provide funds for such trade show displays which also feature information on "Rediscover Texas", the Salt Grass Trail and the Chisholm Trail among others. She was seeking to develop interest from the BEDC in joining with this partnership in order to promote Austin County in the future. The cost is about \$1,000-1,200 to participate in such a trade show. Nancy Allen stated Peggy had been enthusiastic and supportive in the planning for the Bellville Heritage Gathering. David Ottmer thanked Peggy for bringing this opportunity to the attention of the BEDC.

Agenda Item #10
Review, Discussion, and Approval of Proposed FY2004 Budget

David Ottmer reviewed the proposed \$150,000.00 budget discussed at the special meeting held August 28th and included with the minutes of that meeting. He briefly touched on each area of the budget and stated that the development of a BEDC website might fall under the Marketing & Promotions heading as would possible support of projects like that suggested by Peggy Spradley. 10% of an annual EDC budget may be allocated for marketing and promotions. He noted infrastructure, if any were to be considered, would come from the budget area of Special Projects & Business Development. Nancy Allen made a motion the proposed budget be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Wayne Browning and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #11
Review and Discussion on Final Report of the Ad Hoc Citizens Input Committee

The subject report was distributed at the last meeting for review and discussion by the Board members. Kenneth Stein made a motion that discussion of the report be done at a special workshop rather than at a regular meeting. Wayne Browning seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A date for the workshop was not determined.

**Agenda Item #12
Recess**

**Agenda Item #13
Executive Session Convenes Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meeting Act
to Consider Possible Acquisition of Land**

Recess was called at 6:25 p.m. to allow Board members a break before the Executive Session was called to order at 6:33 p.m. to discuss possible acquisition of land. The Executive Session adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Agenda Item #14

Regular Session Reconvenes to Consider Any Action Necessary from Executive Session Regarding Possible Litigation

The regular session was reconvened at 7:34 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the BEDC Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary