

Meeting Minutes
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

The regular meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation was called to order by David Ottmer at 5:31 p.m., Tuesday, January 13, 2004, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were Warren Scott, David Ottmer, Kenneth Stein, Mike Mueller and Allene Schmitt. A quorum was present at the time of roll call. Wayne Browning arrived at 5:50 p.m.

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

Warren Scott made a motion the Minutes of the December 9th, 2003 regular meeting be approved as presented. Kenneth Stein seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

A corrected Treasurer's Report for December 9, 2003 was received from outgoing Treasurer Robert Simpson. He also left a Treasurer's Report for the period 11/30/03 to 12/31/03 for review. A checkbook balance of \$355,703.32 was indicated with one uncleared check in the amount of \$747.50. Warren Scott made a motion the Treasurer's Reports be accepted as presented and any outstanding invoices paid. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Stein and carried unanimously.

Mr. Simpson also dropped off a Financial Report of the EDC Grant to the Bellville Library to date. The report indicated \$22,188.38 had been disbursed and a balance of \$52,811.62 remained from the grant of \$75,000.00.

Agenda Item #7
Public Comment

None.

Agenda Item #8
Acceptance of Any Grant Applications Presented

Two applications were presented for consideration:

1. 1. Bellville Parks Board applied for \$10,000.00 or actual cost, whichever is less, for the purchase of two sets of portable bleachers. The multi-use bleachers will be kept at the Hacienda Field, but will be moved as needed to various locations throughout the city for other sports and special events. The application will be on file at the City Library and at City Hall for public review until the hearing on April 13, 2004.

2. 2. Austin County applied for \$25,000.00 to be used in the restoration of the Historic Austin County Jail into a museum. This amount will be used for lightning protection, roof-mounted floodlights and the repair and cleaning of tower windows and bars. Phase I for \$166,935.00 will begin this month and will be funded by Austin County, a Texas Historical Commission Grant and other local donations. This application also will be on file at the Library and City Hall for public review until the hearing on April 13, 2004.

Agenda Item #9

Review and Possible Action to Amend Article Three of the Bylaws of Bellville Economic Development Corporation to include in the section headed DIRECTORS, Number and Qualifications of Directors – *“The authorized number of Directors of this Corporation shall be seven and may not be increased or decreased unless the same is authorized by an amendment to the Economic Development Act of 1979 and these Bylaws. Any directorship to be filled by reason of an increase in the number of Directors shall be filled by appoint by the City Council of the City of Bellville. No more than four directors may be employees, officers or City Council members of the City of Bellville.”*

Warren Scott made a motion the wording of the above-referenced section of the Bylaws be changed to reflect four directors rather than three directors as is currently stated. The motion was seconded by Mike Mueller; it carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #10
Discussion and Possible Action to Elect New Officers

Both David Ottmer and Kenneth Stein agreed to continue in their current positions as President and Vice President, respectively, if that is the desire of other directors. Mike Mueller made such

motion; it was seconded by Warren Scott and carried unanimously. The nomination of Nancy Allen as Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer was discussed, but will be tabled until she can be present.

Agenda Item #11
Questions or Comments on December 9th Report from Nancy Allen on the TEEX 52nd
Basic Economic Development Course in San Antonio, November 2-7, 2003

Because Nancy Allen was absent, this agenda item was tabled for a later meeting.

Agenda Item #12
Distribution of ByLaws Revised December 9, 2003

Agenda Item #13
Consideration and Action to Revise BEDC Mission Statement

Following discussion regarding the word “heritage” to describe tourism, it was determined this description was too specific. Kenneth Stein made a motion the following be accepted as the revised BEDC Mission Statement:

“The Bellville Economic Development Corporation will strive to enhance Bellville’s economy by expanding the tax base, promoting tourism and providing for a better quality of life for the citizens of our community. Our mission is to further the economic growth and development of Bellville while preserving the integrity of our rich heritage.”

The motion to accept this wording was seconded by Allene Schmitt and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #14
Consideration and Action to Accept or Revise Draft Application Form

Following discussion, the following changes were made to the draft application form:

1. 1. Page 3 – add “Infrastructure assistance to commercial projects.”
2. 2. Page 4 – remove “retail and...”
3. 3. Page 4 – add “Retail businesses and restaurants may not be funded unless related to a sports facility.”

Wayne Browning made a motion the application be accepted with the revisions suggested. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Stein and carried unanimously. The applications will be revised and copies will be available at City Hall and at the Library for interested parties.

Agenda Item #15

Continue Review of 4B City Web Pages and Material Received from Other 4B Cities

Responses were received from the cities of Cuero, Needville and Robstown. Suzanne Edwards will prepare more letters for Kenneth Stein’s signature.

Agenda Item #16

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

A flyer received from the Texas Leadership Institute for Course 1358 on “Administering the Local Hotel Occupancy Tax and State Tourism & Economic Development Financial Programs” was distributed and discussed. The class will be held on February 17, 2004 at the LCRA riverside Conference Center in Bastrop.

With the restrictions of HB 2912 placed on the types of grants which can be given, the revision of the budget back to annual rather than every six months needs to be considered and discussed. This item will be placed on next month’s agenda.

There being no further business to come before the BEDC Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary