

**15 November 2005 Regular Meeting  
Bellville Economic Development Corporation**

David Ottmer called the Regular Meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 15 November 2005, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Warren Scott offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were: Warren Scott, Wayne Browning, David Ottmer, Jim Freeman, Allene Schmitt, Andrew Lienhard, and Jim Bishop. A quorum was certified. Executive Director Carolyn Gibson was present.

Motion was made by Jim Freeman, and seconded by Wayne Browning, to accept the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Warren Scott, with a second by Wayne Browning, to accept Minutes of the Regular Meeting October 18, 2005. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report was given by Warren Scott, based on Bank Statement, Balance Sheet, and YTD Profit & Loss. Balance in Checking Account as of October 31<sup>st</sup> was \$179,149.96. October Sales Tax Income of \$13,738.81 and Interest Income of \$260.82 resulted in total monthly deposits of \$13,999.63. Checks totaling \$12,822.00 were posted. Balance Sheet showed the following current Certificates of Deposit: Guaranty Bank- \$85,587.46, Wells Fargo- \$100,605.80, and Industry State Bank- \$100,711.01. Total Current Assets as of October 31, 2005 are \$466,054.23. Interest earned on CD's for October was \$1,254.14. Outstanding bills were presented for payment to Bellville Chamber of Commerce \$3,000.00 for Contract of Services, Allene Schmitt for \$138.56 for travel reimbursement for Grant Class, Carolyn Gibson for \$225.20 for Grant Class travel reimbursement and Seacon expenses, in addition for payment to TCCE of \$125.00 per person for the 8 December 2005 Advanced Business Retention Seminar-if any Directors wished to attend.

Motion to approve report and payment of bills by Jim Freeman was seconded by Wayne Browning. Motion carried unanimously.

Allene Schmitt made a motion to obtain a BEDC Corporate Visa or MasterCard from Wells Fargo Bank with a \$1000.00 spending limit, to include one card in Carolyn Gibson's name and one BEDC card with all Directors authorized to sign. Billing date of 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to be

requested so payment can be approved at BEDC Meeting prior to due date. Motion was seconded by Jim Freeman and carried unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #7**

#### **Consideration and Action Regarding Resolution in Support of Traffic Relief System Project**

Wayne Browning stated that the Traffic Relief System is something that's been needed for a long time for the future of Bellville, noting the hazardous materials moving around the County Courthouse and incidents of overturned vehicles. Andrew Lienhard questioned what the Relief Route would be. David Ottmer answered that was yet to be determined, that the resolution would provide a starting point for a study of the situation. Wayne Browning noted that he had attended an H-GAC meeting in Houston and received a list of funds dedicated to members, and that Bellville was not on the list. Allene Schmitt asked if signing the resolution would commit the BEDC to provide funds. David Ottmer answered only where it was legal and permissible, and that the Attorney General's office had been contacted to determine those parameters.

Jim Bishop noted that Bellville would have to ask if they wanted TxDOT to help with the Traffic Relief System. Allene Schmitt questioned what would happen when/if the routes were decided. Wayne Browning stated that TxDOT would have several suggested routes and then hold town meetings. Jim Bishop noted that TxDOT was required to have more than one route to present. Jim Freeman questioned how this could be a permissible project under the current 4B guidelines. Warren Scott made the motion to sign the resolution in support of the Traffic Relief System and forward it to TxDOT. Jim Bishop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #8**

#### **Public Comment**

Jerome Peters signed up for public comment on land availability in Bellville. After thanking the BEDC for approval of the Traffic Relief System Resolution, Mr. Peters stated that the question had been raised as to whether or not land was available for commercial development, and that after talking to local realtor Frank Monk, he learned that land is available, but not necessarily "on the market" at this time. He also stated that he had spoken with a representative of BNSF, and that their property was available but no plans were in the works at this time. If there was a need or opportunity for railroad spurs or a sale of the land they would be open to both scenarios. David Ottmer thanked Mr. Peters and asked if he would be willing to organize and serve on a land acquisition committee with Wayne Browning. Mr. Peters stated that he would, and Wayne Browning also agreed to serve.

#### **Agenda Item #9**

##### **Acceptance of any Grant Applications Presented**

There were no grant applications presented.

#### **Agenda Item #10**

##### **Executive Director's Comments**

Carolyn Gibson provided agendas for the City Council meeting for November 15<sup>th</sup>, an updated Board of Directors contact information sheet, yet another letter from a Houston family that wished to express their appreciation for the kindness offered to them during the Hurricane Rita evacuation, information on the Gulf Coast Small Business Finance Corporation (Judge Bilski had appointed Carolyn to the Board), the Texas Travel Industry Association's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Seminar November 30<sup>th</sup>, and the East Texas Economic Development Summit on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

##### **Questions and Comments from Board of Directors**

Jim Freeman asked that Allene Schmitt and Carolyn Gibson tell about the Grant Proposal Writing Course they attended in October. After a brief description of the information given at the class from Allene Schmitt, several members of the Board requested copies of the information. Carolyn Gibson will make copies for each Director and have them available at the Chamber office.

#### **Agenda Item #11**

##### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion to adjourn was made by Wayne Browning and seconded by Warren Scott. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

*Carolyn Gibson for Allene Schmitt, Secretary*