



STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF FORT BEND

CITY OF RICHMOND

The Development Corporation of Richmond convened in a regular meeting open to the public and pursuant to notice thereof duly given in accordance with Section 501.072, Local Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, in Richmond City Hall Annex within said City on April 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Directors in attendance included the following:

President, Joe Bonham
Secretary, Nancie Rain
Becky Haas
William B. Morefield, III
City Attorney, Gary Smith
City Secretary, Laura Scarlato

Vice President, Kit Jones
Treasurer, Terry Gaul
Tim Jeffcoat - Absent
Terri Vela, City Manager
Economic Development Director "ED", Jerry Jones

President Joe Bonham proceeded to call the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was broadcast via video conference call. All members of the public may participate in the meeting and via video conference call.

There was a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and Texas flag were recited.

Agenda item A3, Public comments. There were no individuals signed up to speak therefore the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item A4, Review and consider taking action on the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 8, 2022. President Bonham asked for changes or discussion regarding the minutes. There were no changes. Director Haas made the motion to approve the minutes of March 8, 2022, with Director Morefield seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A5, Review Financial Reports through March 31, 2022. Finance Director Justin Alderete addressed the Board stating that two balance sheets were provided. The Capital Improvement Projects were reflected on the DCR report. The sales tax repayment agreement provides for the DCR share of 25% of \$89,000 being repaid throughout the year which has been allocated for and no effect should be experienced. At the end of the fiscal year, DCR should be at budget or above budget.

Agenda item A6, Review and consider taking action on extending length of agreement for Bella Media and procurement from our Reserved for Opportunity Funds.

Economic Development Director Jerry Jones provided the background of the contract with Bella Media and the proposal to continue to utilize their services. Director Kit Jones interjected his thoughts on the importance of investing in marketing and getting the City of Richmond out to the public and making an impact. City Manager Vela made note that both the City and the Development Corporation benefit from the services of Bella Media. Robert Harrington, Producer and CEO of Bella Media addressed the board stating that the company had gathered over 200 genuine stories over the past ten months and have built a relationship with the City that he considers special. Director Becky Haas made the motion to extend the agreement with Bella Media for an additional six months. Director Morefield seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A7, Review and a presentation from the West Fort Bend Management District. Ellen Hughes, Executive Director joined the meeting via zoom to provide the presentation with Board Member Lane Ward also addressing the Board. The WFBMD was formed in 2005 by the TX 79th Legislature and is governed by a five-member board. Rosenberg has not funded the board since 2015, Lane Ward assured the DCR that the funds received are allocated to the benefit of Richmond. The action points were covered such as the mowing of the median of FM 359 and Project Green Ribbon which coordinates with TxDot. Mr. Ward stated the WFBMD for the past six months have been funding the mowing along Hwy 90 from the FM 359 to the Brazos River Bridge. This is the Gateway to the City and should appear the best. Director Hughes indicated the WFBMD stepped back in this year to assist with the Pecan Festival sponsoring and managing volunteers. Economic Development Director Jerry Jones stated that Ms. Hughes will present a different plan of action for the funds at the June 2022 board meeting. It was stated that the WFBMD is a valuable tool for developers and with the changes occurring in Rosenberg, the hope is they will return to the table. There was no action on this item.

Agenda item 8. Report of activities of Economic Development Director. Economic Development Director discussed the Travel Texas EDA Program. The program is open to nonprofit destination/DMO partners with goals to encourage recovery within the Texas leisure and hospitality sector. Bella Media is already developing materials to assist our businesses with developing tourism in our community.

Agenda item 9. Review and consider future Workshops for EDC.

Economic Development Director Jerry Jones stated that May 26, 2022, was the date they all seemed to have available to hold a workshop on Economic Development 101. A sightseeing tour of Ion Houston which is an Innovation Hub to see if this is something they would like to see in Richmond.

Agenda item 10. Review and consider ways to become a recipient of the annual Texas Economic Development Council's 2022 Economic Excellence Award. Having Board members participate in the workshops and conferences increases the chances of being recognized. Being trained, having certifications, professional memberships and activities all contribute to the standards for qualifications. Economic Development Director encouraged the Board members to attend and become involved.

Agenda item 11. Excuse from Attendance at Regular DCR Meeting. There were no absences to excuse.

Agenda item 12. Adjourn to Executive Session, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.
Adjourned to Executive Session at 6:46 p.m.

- E1. Hanger
- E2. Noodle
- E3. Neighbor **Reserved for Opportunities**
- E4. Mead
- E5. Voltage

Reconvene into Open Meeting and take action on items if necessary.

The open meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m. with the following actions being taken.

Director Klip Morefield made the motion to approve E3. Neighbor providing the grant money for that project. Director Nancie Rain seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Director Haas	Favor
Director Rain	Favor
Director Morefield	Favor
Director Gaul	Abstain
Director Kit Jones	Favor

Director Klip Morefield made the motion to approve a \$25,000 grant for E4. Mead but based on receiving certificates of occupancy, permits and licenses and be in operation for three months prior to releasing the funds. Director Nancie Rain seconded the motion, and the votes as follows:

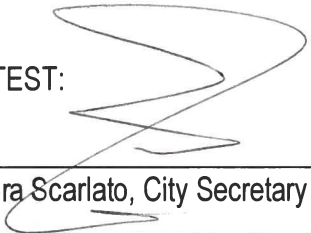
Director Haas	Against
Director Rain	Favor
Director Morefield	Favor
Director Gaul	Favor
Director Kit Jones	Favor

There being no further business to come before the Development Corporation of Richmond, President Bonham adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

APPROVED:


Joe Bonham, President

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary