

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

Date of Meeting: September 5, 2019  
Time of Meeting: 5:30 P.M.  
Location: Council Meeting Room, Bellville City Hall  
30 South Holland St., Bellville, TX 77418

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge
2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum **Present: Reesa Ueckert, Rhonda Dean, Pat Burns, Garrett Dornon, Danny Jacob, Ric Flores. Absent: Paul Jones. Quorum certified.**
3. Consideration and Action to Approve the Agenda as Posted **Mr. Jacob motion to approve, Ms. Dean 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.**
4. Public Comment (3-Minute Remarks of Speakers who have completed Sign-in Sheet) AND Receipt of Grant Applications **None**
5. Questions and Comments from Board Members (discussion is limited to statements of policy or statements of factual matters, or the request that a matter be placed on the next meeting's agenda). **Ms. Dean asked about the CHI billboard on Front street. Mr. Flores said they had an existing contract, and the board would come down at the end of the contract period.**
6. Consideration and Action to Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting held **Mr. Jacob motion to approve agenda, Mr. Flores 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.**
7. Consideration and Action to Approve Treasurer's Report, Payment of Outstanding Bills, and Investments. **Mr. Flores gave report, showing two options on reporting contingent liabilities. Total current assets are \$803,548.59. Total accounts payable(contingent liabilities) are \$324,395.19. Total income for the month was \$27,530.40. Bills presented for payment: (note: at end of meeting this list was modified to drop one bill that had already been paid to Bellville Times. This list is the correct list) \$161.28, \$57.94 & \$104.50 to City of Bellville for utilities, \$1,757.00 to Blondie's Hair Salon for improvement grant, \$175 to City of Bellville for ½ of accounting fees for September, \$175 to LeAnn Luedeker to ½ of accounting fees for September, \$700 to All Out Outdoors for lawn maintenance, \$1,650 to Diane White for Strategic Vision, \$126 to Bellville Times for notices. Total \$4,906.72. Mr. Burns motion to approve report and pay bills as presented. Ms. Ueckert 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.**
8. Consideration and Action to Approve the Advertising and Tourism Report from the Chamber of Commerce. **Mr. Burns motion to approve, Ms. Dean second, motion approved unanimously.**
9. Consideration and Action as needed on Austin County Jail Museum. **Maureen Brack from the Austin County Jail Museum was on hand to present request for \$10,000 in funding for engineering and architectural drawings to air condition the upstairs portion of the Jail. She noted the lack of air conditioning upstairs was causing a major problem with condensation and moisture, causing the metal to rust and the building to deteriorate. She noted the downstairs already had A/C, which kept the moisture in check there. The total cost of the study and drawings is \$24,390. The County, which owns the building, has committed \$10,000 toward that cost. There was discussion that this was much like the grant the EDC had given to the Turnverein, that the studies would be needed before it could even be determined what the cost of the A/C would be. Mr. Burns said he didn't mind being a partner with the County in helping with the studies but felt that was as far as the EDC should go. Ms. Ueckert made motion to provide \$10,000 grant for the studies. Ms. Dean 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved unanimously.**
10. Consideration and Action as needed on BEDC accounting services agreement with City

of Bellville. Mr. Dornon said that as he noted the previous month, Ms. Luedeker had decided to step down from providing for the accounting services for the EDC. Ms. Luedeker asked to stop with the start of the new fiscal year in October. Mr. Dornon said he had looked for options and had received no suggestions from the board. He felt the best option was to contract with the City for the services. In this case, the CFO Cathy Ezell would provide the service. Mr. Dornon said he had talked with the City Administrator about this arrangement, and the board would pay the \$350 monthly fee to the City. Ms. Ezell was present and discussed the procedures. Initially she proposed adapting the EDC ledger to the City Accounting system, but it was agreed the board preferred to keep the books on QuickBooks, to preserve the history. To do this the board would need to buy a license for Quickbooks and a laptop. Mr. Jacob said he didn't like the idea of having the City provide the service, and that he felt it was best to keep it separate. Mr. Burns said that Ms. Ezell had already been very involved in the EDC process working with Ms. Luedeker, particularly in working with the auditors, and felt this was a good solution. Alderwoman Donna Jacob spoke from the audience, and said she felt this was a matter that should have gone to Council first. Ms. Ezell said it would go to Council to be approved. Mr. Dornon said he felt the EDC should vote first on it, to see if the board even wanted this arrangement before taking it to Council. Ms. Dean asked how much time this would take for Ms. Ezell to do each month. Ms. Ezell felt it would not be a large amount of time. Mr. Burns noted that it was up to the administration and Council to decide when Ms. Ezell did the work, whether as part of her regular duties or on her own time. Mr. Burns made a motion to approve an agreement with the City to provide accounting services, as well as to buy a QuickBooks license and a laptop. Mr. Flores 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion was approved 3-1-1. Mr. Burns, Mr. Flores and Ms. Ueckert voting yes, Mr. Jacob voting no, Ms. Dean abstaining.

11. Committee Reports

- a. Quiet Zone Committee **Mr. Burns said Shawn Jackson said there was no update. Mr. Burns said he would reach out as well to Robert Albritton to get a sense of where things stood.**
- b. Community Relations Committee
- c. Strategic Plan Committee **Mr. Flores and Mr. Dornon said the committee was working steadily and nearing completion of their work.**
- d. EDC Administration Committee
- e. Other committees

12. Executive Session under Govt. Code Sec. 551.071, 551.072 and 551.087 to discuss legal matters with attorney, real property negotiations, and/or economic development negotiations. **Executive session began at 6:24. Ended at 6:42**

13. Action on matters considered in Executive Session. **No Action. As noted above, one bill to be paid in Treasurer's report was dropped.**

14. Adjournment. **6:43**