

**EASTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INC.
BOARD MEETING
June 8, 2020**

The Eastland Economic Development, Inc. Board of Directors met in the Commission Chambers at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

Members Present:

Board Member _____	Mark Pipkin
Board Member _____	Carolyn White
Board Member _____	Vicki Bradley
Board Member _____	James Doyle
Executive Director _____	Tom Bailey
Board Member _____	Jason Cochran

City Staff Present:

City Manager _____	Ron Duncan
Planning Director _____	Tony Stubblefield
City Secretary _____	Roma Holley

Guests: Donald Cate

I. Meeting Called to Order

Vicki Bradley called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was offered by Jason Cochran and Mark Pipkin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Finance Report

Donald Cate reviewed the income and expense report for the month of May. He noted no unusual expenditures or income for the month. Operating expenses are within normal bounds.

Jason Cochran made a motion, seconded by James Doyle, to approve the finance report as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

IV. Approve Minutes of the May 11,2020 and May 26, 2020 Meetings.

Mark Pipkin made a motion, seconded by Jason Cochran, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White
Nays: None
Absent: None

V. Public Comment on any subject not Listed on this Agenda
(Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

There were no comments.

VI. The EEDI Board of Directors may Discuss and Take Action on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Discuss and Consider support for the Eastland LVN Program

Director Tom Bailey introduced this item and began by reminding the board of the proposal made by Dr. Jennifer Kent of Ranger College at the last regular meeting of EEDI in May. At that time, Dr. Kent asked for \$50,000 to fund a full-time employee to direct the activities at the Eastland Campus of Ranger College School of Nursing. This would be a one-time contribution. The point of this is to offer a level of higher education to our local citizens and hope, in turn, that they complete the program and continue to work here locally.

Discussion centered around several questions that the board wanted answers to.

The first discussion was regarding the fact that in the past, the EEDI board had given \$25,000 to Ranger College to support LVN clinicals at Eastland Memorial Hospital. This was an important contribution at the time.

The second discussion was about the funds spent on renovating portions of the Victor Cornelius building for Ranger College and now they are not going to use the building at this time. Dr. Kent stated in the earlier meeting. they hope to grow the LVN program large enough to move it to the VC building in the future.

There was discussion about possibly supporting the venture in the amount of \$25,000 with the stipulation that if the program doesn't move forward with the full-time position due to lack of students, the money would be returned to EEDI.

The point was made that this will be a good way to help Eastland Memorial Hospital with its staffing issues. It will also be a good opportunity for our local citizens to engage in higher education without having to travel elsewhere.

Mark Pipkin made a motion, seconded by Carolyn White, to provide Ranger College with \$25,000 to support a full-time position here at the Eastland location. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Pipkin, White
Nays: Doyle
Absent: None

2. Discuss and Consider lease terms with Kevco Recycling, LLC.

Director Bailey advised that based on the feedback and direction given by the board at the last meeting, he had gone to Ronnie Harris and they had settled on a modification to the original contract, due to the nationwide economic downturn caused by the Corona Virus pandemic. Pending approval by this board, this modification of a reduction of rent by 50% will be in effect for a period of six months.

Jason Cochran made a motion, seconded by James Doyle, to approve the modification to the lease contract of Kevco Recycling, LLC, as presented. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White
Nays:
Absent: None

3. Discuss and Consider EEDI property on I-20 near Hwy 6.

Director Bailey explained to the board about the EEDI property near the new construction of the Red Star. He would like authorization to talk to Red Star engineers to ask them to move their excavated fill dirt from onto the EEDI property. This will raise the level of the EEDI property and be a great benefit.

Mark Pipkin made a motion, seconded by Jason Cochran, to authorize Tom Bailey to speak with the Red Star Engineers about moving the dirt. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Cochran, Doyle, Pipkin, White
Nays: None
Absent: None

VII. Executive Director's Report – Update on projects and activities including:

Director Bailey gave very brief updates on several ongoing projects:

Red Star Property: The old building has been demolished and cleared. This project is underway.

El Reno Energy: They are proceeding with work on Crockett Street.

Blake Fulenwider: Blake has moved in and the facility looks great! El Reno is working on the neighboring lots so soon we can put up a sign to sell, or lease, the remaining property.

Woodlands Nursing Home: The new facility is moving along quickly and they have asked for University Drive to be completed. City Manager Ron Duncan is communicating with Raydon Construction and they should begin construction on the new street soon.

Town Homes on Lago Vista: Due to the downturn in the economy, this project is not moving forward at this time. Hopefully, once the economy bounces back, this project will return to Eastland.

VIII. Adjournment

Carolyn White made a motion, seconded by Jason Cochran to adjourn at 12:44 p.m. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Pipkin, White, Doyle, Cochran
Nays: None
Absent: None

Approved:

Vicki Bradley, Chairman
EEDI Board

Attest:

Roma Holley, City Secretary