

**MINUTES**

**AMARILLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**April 19, 2011**

The meeting of the AEDC Board of Directors was held in the in the AEDC Conference Room, 801 S. Fillmore, Suite 205, Amarillo, Texas at 1:30 PM on April 19, 2011. Board members in attendance were:

CLIFF BICKERSTAFF  
EDDIE BRADLEY  
BRAD MARTIN  
TOM BIVINS  
GINGER NELSON

CHAIRMAN  
VICE CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY  
DIRECTOR  
DIRECTOR  
DIRECTOR

Also in attendance were the following staff members:

RICHARD DAVID  
STEVE PRITCHETT  
DOUG NELSON  
BRIAN JENNINGS  
LYNDY FORRESTER  
ASHTON ALLISON  
CHRIS LYLES

PRESIDENT  
VICE PRESIDENT/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
VICE PRESIDENT/FINANCIAL SERVICES  
SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Bickerstaff established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

**ITEM 1: Call to order of the Public Meeting.** Director Bivins made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2011 meeting as written. Director Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Director Martin presented a brief overview of the EnterPrize Challenge reception, which was held April 6, 2011. This event was also the presentation of the checks to the 2011 winners of the grant competition.

President David read the list of the winners: Jax Transport, American Site Builders, English Field Aviation, nanoFRIO, all receiving \$100,000 each; Dichonics Corporation and Posh Pinc, each receiving \$50,000 each.

President David shared with those in attendance at the meeting that Chris Lyles was selected as the recipient of the Amarillo Chapter of IAAP Chapter Member of the Year, 2010-2011.

Chairman Bickerstaff adjourned the meeting into Executive Session at 1:35pm.

No action was taken during the executive session because none is permitted by law. The public session reconvened at 3:27pm.

**ITEM 2: 11-04-01 – Project Utility Workforce:** President David gave an overview of the project – Amarillo College is requesting funding for a Utility Power Worker program, in the form of a matching grant.

Amarillo College states that some of the factors that have contributed to the emerging need for Utility Power Workers (electrical lineman and maintenance engineers) are: 1) wind energy industry growth and subsequent grid construction in the Texas Panhandle, 2) employment needs of regional utility companies, and 3) the need for more training associated with the wind energy industry.

President David recommended the approval of the matching grant, not to exceed \$369,400.

Director Martin made a motion to approve the recommendation. Director Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**11-04-02 – Project Achievement:** President David gave a brief overview of the project, also named “Partners for Postsecondary Success”. This is an application process to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of underprivileged kids that complete and receive a certificate in a post-secondary education field. The Amarillo Area Foundation and The Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation are requesting a grant of \$100,000 each year, for five years to help in the sustainability of the program, should the grant be received from the Gates Foundation. There are two cities in Texas and two cities in North Carolina that are finalists in the grant application process.

President David made a recommendation to approve the request for \$100,000 for each year, for up to five years, for Project Achievement.

Director Bivins made a motion to approve the recommendation. Director Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Chairman Bickerstaff stated this program fits into our mission of attracting new employers to this region, by assisting with the training and nurturing of a qualified workforce. Many of the underprivileged kids targeted in this program are not just interested in a 4-year degree, and are good candidates for technical training at local institutions like Amarillo College, learning the skills necessary to become employable with primary firms we have and continue to attract to this area. One of our biggest challenges is assuring prospective employers that we have an adequate skilled workforce

**ITEM 3: CenterPort Engineering Services:** In order to receive the infrastructure development grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Amarillo EDC is required to select a provider of engineering services for the project. President David provided information on the process. Five engineering firms, three local and two in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex, provided Statements of Qualification. The firms were rated using a scoring process. Brian Jennings was the recipient of all information and also scored and evaluated the submissions.

President David recommended OJD Engineering of Amarillo for the CenterPort Engineering Services, due to their scores as well as their familiarity of Amarillo and CenterPort.

Director Bivins made a motion to approve the recommendation. Vice-Chairman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

ITEM 4: There were no items to discuss.

ITEM 5: There were no items to discuss.

ITEM 6: There were no items to discuss.

The April 19, 2011 Amarillo EDC Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm. The next meeting is scheduled May 10, 2011 at 11:00am.

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing information is correct.

  
Cliff Bickerstaff, Chairman