

## MINUTES

### AMARILLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 22, 2021

The meeting of the Amarillo EDC Board of Directors meeting was held at First Bank Southwest Tower, 600 S Tyler, Floor 31, Amarillo, TX at 11:00 a.m. on November 22, 2021. Board members in attendance were:

| Voting Members | Board Position       | Present | No. Meetings Held | No. Meetings Attended |
|----------------|----------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| SCOTT BENTLEY  | CHAIRMAN             | Y       | 34                | 34                    |
| ANDREW HALL    | VICE-CHAIR/SECRETARY | Y       | 22                | 21                    |
| BRIAN HEINRICH | DIRECTOR             | Y       | 65                | 62                    |
| LAURA STREET   | DIRECTOR             | Y       | 54                | 51                    |
| LLOYD BROWN    | DIRECTOR             | Y       | 44                | 37                    |

Also, in attendance were the following staff members:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| KEVIN CARTER       | PRESIDENT & CEO                         |
| MICHAEL KITTEN     | VICE PRESIDENT PROJECT DEVELOPMENT      |
| SABRINA MECK PEREZ | DIR. - WORKFORCE ATTRACTION & RETENTION |
| SAVANNAH TARBET    | DIRECTOR MARKETING & COMMUNICATION      |
| HOLLIE HAWKINS     | DIRECTOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT           |
| PAUL SIMPSON       | DIRECTOR BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION |
| CHRIS LYLES        | OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR                    |

Also in attendance was the following:

|              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| LAURA STORRS | TREASURER, AEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS |
|--------------|------------------------------------|

Guests in attendance are as follows:

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| BOB GEOLAS  | HR&A ADVISORS, INC. |
| MATT GARNER | CONSULTANT          |

- ITEM 1: Chairman Bentley established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.
- ITEM 2: Chairman Bentley introduced Director Street who provided a brief on the Amarillo Innovation Strategy presentation and introduced the presenter, Bob Geolas with HR&A Advisors, Inc. to those in attendance.

She also stated that while questions and comments would not be allowed during the presentation, the board encourages them, in a written medium, and they will be responded to at a later time.

Mr. Geolas shared his background and how he began the study of innovation for communities.

He then provided an overview of the study he is performing on Amarillo and the Panhandle area for innovation projects, including what the communities need to do to be in the innovation project markets.

Mr. Geolas included the process he is utilizing as well as the scope of the population included in the research to make recommendations for the report.

Three areas they are focusing on are: 1) the labor market; 2) professional services; and 3) STEM programs.

Mr. Geolas expanded on each of these areas in relation to the value within the research for the report.

He provided an overview of the steps and phases to take to implement the recommendations.

Chairman Bentley thanked Mr. Geolas, Dr. Garner and Director Street for their continuing work on this project.

ITEM 3: Chairman Bentley requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021 Board of Directors meeting. Director Heinrich made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director Brown seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ITEM 4: **Quarterly Investment Report:** Treasurer Storrs provided information from the report from June 30, 2021. Interest rates remained low, reinvesting as items mature.

Chairman Bentley requested a motion to accept the Quarterly Investment Report as presented. Director Street made a motion to accept. Vice-Chairman Hall seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ITEM 5: **Staff Financial & Operation Reports:**

President Carter stated that sales tax collections are up 8.8% for the month, up 11% year-to-date collections. Amarillo is the twelfth largest collector of sales tax in Texas for this period.

Hotel/motel most recent tax collection is up 32% for the month, 45% for the year.

**President Carter provided updates on the following projects:**

**Amazon:** They will be completed in the first quarter and start hiring in mid-February.

**Texas Tech Vet School:** They are finishing out lab space. The ribbon cutting has been postponed until the spring. There are over eight hundred applicants for the eighty spots for the Fall 2022 class.

**Cacique:** Construction continues for the facility in the South Georgia Business Park. The company will begin holding monthly construction meetings. There are also recruitment presentations taking place. Director Perez has taken charge of this with assistance from Directors Tarbet and Hawkins.

President Carter commended Vice-Chairman Hall on his involvement in the Mural event recently held in downtown Amarillo.

ITEM 6: The next meeting of the Amarillo EDC Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, December 13, 2021 at 11:00 am.

ITEM 7: Chairman Bentley opened the meeting for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

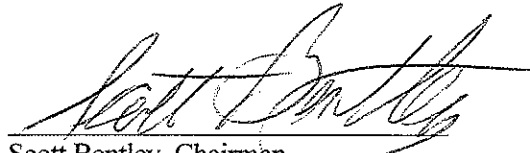
ITEM 8: Chairman Bentley adjourned the meeting into executive session at 12:30 pm.

No action was taken during the executive session because none is permitted by law.

The public session reconvened at 12:59 pm.

ITEM 9: The November 22, 2021 meeting of the Amarillo EDC Board of Directors was adjourned at 12:59 pm

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing information is correct.

  
Scott Bentley, Chairman