

**LA FERIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, September 1, 2015**

Be it known that the Board of Directors of the La Feria Economic Development Corporation (LFEDC) met in special session on Tuesday, September 1, 2015, at 6:00 PM in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 East Commercial Avenue, La Feria, Texas, 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on such Corporation business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with State Open Meetings Law.

The following Board Members were present at said meeting.

Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap	President
Mr. John Hernandez	Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	Director
Ms. Olga H. Maldonado	Director
Ms. Esmeralda Lozano	Director
Mr. Ignacio A. Garcia Galvez	Director
Ms. Mary Garcia	Director

The following Board Members were absent from said meeting.

None

The following City Staff members were present at said meeting.

Mr. Sunny K. Philip	City Manager/Executive Director
Mr. Richard Talbert	City Attorney
Ms. Paula Rodriguez	Planning & Comm. Dev. Director
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Rose Saenz	Assistant Finance Director
Ms. Esmeralda Sanchez	City Secretary

Others present at said meeting:

NONE

At 6:02 P.M., LFEDC President Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap asked all present to rise and recite aloud the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. She then declared a quorum of the La Feria Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors was present and called the meeting to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Dunlap declared the public comments session open. Since no one signed up to speak, the public comments session was closed.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE LFEDC HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015**

Upon review of the minutes, Commissioner Esmeralda Lozano made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr. and the motion passed by unanimous vote of the LFEDC Board members present.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY 2015**

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero reviewed the financial reports for the months of June and July 2015. A copy of the reports was included in the meeting packet for review by Board. Ms. Chavero reviewed revenues and expenditures for the month of June and July, year-to-date figures and the Sales Tax Collection Report which averaged \$25,462 per month, approximately 6.43% more than last year. The Sales Tax Deposit fluctuates from month to month indicating a 5.85% increase over last year for the same time period. After review, Ms. Dunlap announced the reports would be filed for audit.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A FUNDING REQUEST FROM VALLEY INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT.**

A packet was provided to the Board for review. Mr. Bernie Saenz, Director of Program Services for the Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA) addressed the Board and explained the history of VIDA and the scope of their services. VIDA is focused on “demand occupations” and provides services to help individuals transition off of public assistance. The project assisted five residents from La Feria in the past year. In previous years the LFEDC has funded this request. This is the first year the request is before the LFEDC. The request does meet the 4B corporation guidelines.

Ms. Olga Maldonado made a motion to approve a \$5,000 funding request to Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lozano and passed by unanimous decision of the Board members present.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP – LFEDC BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016**

A proposed budget was presented for review. The LFEDC is one of the two economic development corporations, known as a 4B corporation. It receives one half of one percent sales tax collected in the community. The LFEDC has been integral to funding of projects such as park facilities including the Nature Park, Sports Complex, and Tiny Town. The LFEDC does not have separate employees, it is administered by City Staff. The LFEDC has specific spending guidelines. City Attorney Richard S. Talbert advises the LFEDC as to such.

Ms. Chavero presented the proposed budget and the budget amendment which includes four disaster recovery single family rental properties funded by the LRGVDC disaster recovery funds. Funds for these homes was available through the Hurricane Dolly disaster recovery rental program. LFEDC purchased each lot, but the funds for construction of each home were in the form of individual grants. The rental homes must be rented at “high home” rates as defined by TDHCA/HUD guidelines and meet specific affordable rental

criteria. The proposed budget includes projected sales tax and rental income from the four disaster recovery rentals. Fees for the recreation center are being considered. A final budget will be presented for consideration at the meeting scheduled for September 8, 2015.

No action is required as a result of the workshop.

**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW CHAPTER 551, GOVERNMENT CODE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 551.072 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PURCHASE/SALE/DONATION OF REAL ESTATE BY THE LFEDC AND SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

Executive session was not necessary. A motion to table agenda items #8 and #9 was made by Ms. Mary Garcia, seconded by Mr. John Hernandez. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the LFEDC Board members present.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION NECESSARY AS THE RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATIONS**

This item was tabled.

**ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Mr. Gonzalez moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Maldonado, the motion passed by unanimous vote of the LFEDC Board members present.

**ADJOURNMENT – PRESIDENT**

The meeting was adjourned by LFEDC Board President Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap at 6:31 PM.

**APPROVED:**

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Betty Jo Dunlap, President

**ATTEST:**

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John Hernandez, Secretary/Treasurer