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BOARD MEETING MINUTES – July 19, 2019

PRESENT: Billy Whisenant, Carolyn Lawrence, Jerod Peek, Gil Cherry, Joseph Crouch, Ken Becker, Miesha Adames, David Vela, Patty Torres

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 AM by Chairman Billy Whisenant

PRAYER: Jerod Peek

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES: Board to review and consider approving minutes from the June 10, 2019 meeting. An error was noted about the date of the financials that were being approved. The date read “March 2019 Financials” instead of “April 2019 Financials.” Joseph Crouch made the motion to approve the minutes with the change of date. Gil Cherry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Board to review and consider approving accounts payables for the month of July 2019. Joseph Crouch made the motion to approve the accounts payables. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIALS: Board to review and consider approving the May 2019 financial statements. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the financials. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MOWING: Board to review and consider approving the increased amount of the mowing bid for Sweetwater Economic Development property located on W. Broadway. Approved bid from the June 2019 meeting was brought back to the Board due to an increase in price because of the requested liability insurance that is needed. Bids were requested from four companies; only two bids were submitted out of the 5 that were requested. Gil Cherry made the motion to award the job to Lots & Plots and the new/increased amount of the bid. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Gil Cherry to enter into Executive Session under Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code to discuss economic development negotiations. Jerod Peek seconded the motion. The motion carried. Gil Cherry and Joseph Crouch abstained from executive session and left the room during the discussion.

Return to Regular Session: A motion was made by Jerod Peek to re-enter into Regular Session with a seconded from Carolyn Lawrence. The motion carried. Gil Cherry and Joseph Crouch re-entered the room.

City of Sweetwater Update (David Vela):

- Sales tax update

Assistant Marketing Director’s Report (Miesha Adames):

- Finish Line Lube and Tire Service on E. Broadway is under new ownership; new owners complimented Miesha and Ken on all of the good things that Sweetwater Economic Development is doing for the community.
- New barber from Midland is located in the old Pharmacy/Barber building on Hailey Street; Miesha and Ken met him and welcomed him to the Sweetwater area.
- Miesha and Ken traveled to Texas National Bank, Roscoe State Bank and First Financial Bank to discuss the new housing development in the Ridgecrest area and to let the loan officers know that they could be approached for mortgage loans. The bank employees present were also updated on all of the current MDD projects.

Executive Director Update (Ken Becker):

Planning and Budget Retreat:

- Quality of Life
- Beautification
- Retail Development
- Small Business Grant

There was discussion between Board and Staff about how to present incentives on the budget. There were comments made about how the current format may restrict Sweetwater Economic Development in the type and amount of incentives that they can offer. Staff was charged with coming up with new ideas on how to present the incentive section of the budget.

There being no further business, Gil Cherry made the motion to adjourn with a second from Billy Whisenant. The motion carried.

