

Lawton Economic Development Corporation

Board Meeting Minutes

Cameron University, Sarkeys Conference Room 207
2800 W Gore Blvd • Lawton, Oklahoma 73501
November 19, 2018 @ 4:00pm

Members Present: Ron Nance, Barry Ezerski, Arthur Patrick, Phil Kennedy, Albert Johnson Jr., Jerry Ihler, Dr. John McArthur, Brenda Spencer-Ragland, Jennifer Ellis, Mayor Fred Fitch, and Clarence Fortney

Members Absent: Paul Ellwanger and Joe Gallagher

Guests: Keith Bridges, Sylvia Burgess, and Tim Hushbeck

Call to Order/Roll Call

I. Introduction of Guests

II. Consider approval/amendment/disapproval of October 15th, 2018 Minutes

ACTION: Barry Ezerski moved to approve the October 15th, 2018 Minutes; Ron Nance seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. Consider approval of September & November 2018 Financials

ACTION: Fred Fitch moved to post pone to the next meeting September & November 2018 financials; Arthur Patrick seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

V. Reports:

President's Report

RFP Chart- LEDC had 1 new lead, Project "Dem." This was a self-generated lead. We continue to stay active with a few projects.

Launch Lawton- AEP/PSO donated \$10,000, LEDC is very thankful, and would like to thank Tim Hushbeck and Janet Smith. This brought us to 30k, 1/3 of the way to our goal.

Current & Upcoming Events- In the 1st part of October, Mr. Cooksey attended the AUSA conference. Karen Bailey hosted a great reception. During this conference he met with different companies one of which was AM General. The Chicago trip followed in which Keith went and did a great job representing Lawton.

Project HIN- This has been hot Project. The company is looking to expand here. This has been a team effort. Thank you to all who have helped. Richard Rogalski, Mayor Fred Fitch, and many more. Thank you to those that were able to attend the tour. The temporary building is estimated to employ 150 employees. Ultimate goal is to build-to-suite. The incentive package was approved by CCIDA. We appreciate CCIDA and their team, Paul, Fred and more. City and LIDA approved that incentive too. Thank you to Jerry for his help.

Amazon Project- Amazon's growth made national news. The company chose their 2nd headquarters home. Total in incentives from both locations equal to \$2.8 billion. These states are offering \$22,000 per job.

Chairman's Report

Governance & Bylaws Committee Update – Changes have been noted and made.

Thank you to Sylvia Burgess for doing this for us. On July 9th, there were 5 areas that we wanted to focus on: Identification of Directors, Appointed Elected Directors, Ex-Officio



Board Members, Elected Directors, and The Selection of Offices. The changes will be emailed to all the Board Members tomorrow so that everyone has the opportunity to look through them and provide any feedback, or ask any questions. A special meeting will be scheduled to go over final changes.

Partner Updates

Albert Johnson Jr. Tom Cole helped on Airport Project. Ware on C held its 2nd event. After this event we have decided to go back to 4th and 5th block. Tomorrow at 5:15 pm is Brenda's welcome event.

Brenda Spencer-Ragland- Had two good meetings with LB Realtors. They will be working on updating the housing matrix to look at the housing we have here. Once this is done, our hope is that BAH for soldiers will be updated as well. Jennifer, Brenda and Mayor Fred Fitch had dinner with owners of Hilton. They agreed to sponsor a Hotel Analysis. Rick Kerr has asked that we do the same with child services.

Jerry Ihler- Working on putting together an election brochure for the January 8th elections. It would be great for the City and LEDC to work together on this. This would be broken into 3 parts: IT, Economic Development, and Alternative Water Source, which is where the funding source is coming from. The intent is to continue with that, just on a different end of the project.

Dr. John McArthur- OK State Higher Education and Cameron Higher education new scholarship program Reaching higher direct complete education. This is tied to little different, instead of focusing on SAT scores, this one is based on what you want to do in the workforce and what is needed. (Enhancement Project) There are Corporate sponsors (underwriting) help adults that started and didn't finish their education.

Clarence Fortney- 5-year accreditation is finished. 29 tech/superintendents came. Thank you to Cameron for helping with transportation. Fort Sill was nice enough to open their doors. They were able to see Fort Sill retire the flag, great for individuals to see, even for those that do not have prior military experience but are proud Americans. There was 120 room nights, 30 people each day. It will be 60 days before we hear back. Thank you so Goodyear and Silver Line Plastics for opening their doors as well.

VI. Business:

A. Consider approval the monthly activity Report.

ACTION: Clarence Fortney moved to approve the monthly activity report; Jennifer Ellis seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

B. Consider approval of 2019 Board Meeting dates.

ACTION: Barry Ezerski moved to amend the 2019 Board Meeting Dates, Jennifer Ellis seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

C. Consider approval to authorize Staff and Board to proactively engage in the passage of Section 4. Section 10-19-1904 of the CIP, under the direction of the President of LEDC.

ACTION: Clarence Fortney moved to approve to authorize Staff and Board to proactively engage in the passage of Section 4. Section 10-19-1904 of the CIP, under the direction of the President of LEDC.

D. Consider approval of convening into Executive Session to discuss the following:

- 1. The purchase or appraisal of real property as allowed by the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act Laws 1977, c. 214, § 1, eff. October 1, 1977; 25 O.S. 307.B.3**



**2. Economic Development as allowed by the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act
Laws 1977, c. 214 § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 1977; 25 O.S. 307.C.10**

ACTION: Arthur Patrick moved to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters referenced above; Clarence Fortney seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

No action was taken in Executive Session; the meeting returned to Open Session.

VII. New Business

VIII. Adjourn

ACTION: Arthur Patrick moved to approve adjourning the meeting; Fred Fitch seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

