

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC.

A regular meeting of the Development Corporation of Abilene, Inc. (DCOA) will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, Abilene Laboratories, 1325 Pine St., Abilene, Texas, commencing at 1:30 p.m. to consider the following agenda:

SIGNED:



Kent Sharp, CEO of the DCOA

AGENDA

August 11, 2015
1:30 p.m.

Abilene Laboratories
1325 Pine St., Abilene, TX

1. Call the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from the July 27, 2015, board meeting.
3. Update on the strategic planning process by TIP Strategies.
4. Executive Session:
The DCOA reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any item on the agenda, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.074 (Personnel Matters) see list below, and 551.087 (Business Prospect/Economic Development). After discussion in executive session, any action or vote will be taken in public.

(Personnel) Section 551.074
The DCOA, pursuant to the adopted Bylaws, may consider the appointment, employment and duties of certain positions as well as membership of certain committees.
5. Discussion and possible approval of a resolution authorizing additional funds for an industrial workforce training program in partnership with Taylor County schools and Cisco College.
6. Adjournment.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of Abilene, Texas, on the _____ day of _____, 2015, at _____.

City Secretary

NOTICE

Persons with disabilities who would like special assistance or need special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact Department of Economic Development, (325) 676-6390, at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of this meeting. Telecommunication device for the deaf is (325) 676-6360.

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 27, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Copeland Jack Rich Dani Ramsay

MEMBER ABSENT: Marelyn Shedd John Beckham

STAFF PRESENT: Kent Sharp Kim Tarrant Stanley Smith

GUESTS PRESENT: Brian Bethel - Abilene Reporter News
Brooke Crumb – Abilene Reporter News
Justin Jaworski – Abilene Industrial Foundation

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: President Dave Copeland called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. at Abilene Laboratories, 1325 Pine St., Abilene Texas.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 14, 2015 BOARD MEETING: Jack Rich moved to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2015, board meeting. Dani Ramsay seconded and the motion carried.

3. STATUS OF FUNDS REPORT FOR JUNE 2015: Kent Sharp, CEO of the DCOA, presented the Status of Funds Report for June 2015. The DCOA's total ending current assets were \$20,282,268. The June 2015 revenues totaled \$932,210 and total expenditures were \$717,569 with \$531,902 being spent on nine different projects.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – SESSION 1: I hereby announce we are going into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 072, 074 and 087 to consult with our legal counsel, discuss real property transactions, personnel matters, and discuss economic development negotiations involving a business prospect, as set forth on the agenda. Any vote or action will be taken in open session.

President Dave Copeland announced the date is July 27, 2015, and the time is 1:41 p.m. Later, President Copeland announced the date is still July 27, 2015, and the time is 2:23 p.m. No vote or action was taken in Executive Session.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ASSISTANCE FOR COCA COLA REFRESHMENTS: Kent Sharp presented a request from Coca Cola Refreshments for the DCOA to assist with their expansion and upgrade of the Abilene plant by approving a 10% match of the \$32 million Coca Cola is investing in this project. The funds will provide substantial upgrades to their facility, machinery and automation systems. The Abilene plant remains very competitive with other plants in the US, and the local Coca Cola management wants to keep Abilene at the forefront. The DCOA has worked with Coca Cola Refreshments in the past and made several large investments. Staff recommends approval of up to \$3,200,000 for the next expansion of the Abilene plant.

Dani Ramsay moved to approve Resolution DCOA 2015.16 with changes noted by Dave Copeland. In Part 1, changes to the language read "...authorizes funding not to exceed \$3.2 million" plus "...a minimum number of 275 employees", referencing the number of jobs to be retained. Jack Rich seconded and the motion carried.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECT PIKE: Kent Sharp presented Project Pike, a local manufacturer having done business in Abilene for several years. The company is undergoing a 27,000 ft. expansion of the existing plant and investing approximately \$1.6 million. They have asked for a 10% match from the DCOA to help with the expansion. Staff recommends funds up to \$160,000 at 10% with the balance forgiven over 2 yrs at 50% each year. The company will retain its existing 90 employees over the 2 year period.

Jack Rich made a motion to approve Resolution No. DCOA 2015.15, as written, and Dani Ramsay seconded. The motion carried.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – SESSION 2: I hereby announce we are going into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 072, 074 and 087 to consult with our legal counsel, discuss real property transactions, personnel matters, and discuss economic development negotiations involving a business prospect, as set forth on the agenda. Any vote or action will be taken in open session.

President Dave Copeland announced the date is July 27, 2015, and the time is 2:30 p.m. Later, President Copeland announced the date is still July 27, 2015, and the time is 3:15 p.m. No vote or action was taken in Executive Session.

7. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Dave Copeland, President

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE
BOARD AGENDA
MEETING DATE: August 11, 2015

PROJECT: Additional Funds for the Industrial Workforce Training Program for Equipment Purchases

STAFF: Kent Sharp, CEO

BACKGROUND:

There is a need for the development of a sustainable, high quality industrial workforce training program for Abilene and Taylor County to meet the needs of existing and future employers in our area. Such a program must be ongoing year after year to address the consistent low unemployment rate of Abilene and Taylor County combined with the deficiency of local workforce participants trained in certain industrial workforce skills. Past and current models in other parts of the state and country, which seem to be the most effective, are composed of partnerships between local training institutions such as community colleges and technical colleges, independent school districts, local workforce boards and local economic development corporations. Each partner brings an important element to the effort.

On June 23, 2015, the DCOA approved resolution DCOA-2015.14 authorizing participation with Taylor County school districts and Cisco College during FY 2015-2016 and funding of \$40,000 for an Industrial Workforce Training program for high school juniors and seniors that focuses on training in the areas of HVAC, plumbing, electrical, welding and industrial maintenance. These five curriculum modules have been identified to target demand occupations in our area which pay a higher starting wage to trained employees versus candidates without these skill sets. Future potential modules could include computer numerical control systems (CNC), robotics and process control systems, to name just a few. The training program will begin this month at the AISD high schools. Please note that although the DCOA funding commitment will target high school juniors and seniors, the program training itself will not exclude an adult population who may be eligible for federal or state aid to assist with program costs.

REQUEST:

The \$40,000 approved in June is to assist students pay for tuition, supplies, books and fees for the first year. All modules except for the Industrial Maintenance are scheduled to begin this month. The welding and electrical modules will be conducted on the school campuses while the plumbing and HVAC will be conducted on the Cisco College campus. The Industrial Maintenance program requires specialized equipment costing about \$100,000. The equipment list includes items needed to teach electricity/electronics relay controls, motor/pump controls, electrical power distribution, electrical wiring, programmable logic controllers, hydraulics, and pneumatics.

The Workforce Center will apply to the state for a High Demand Workforce grant that can be used to match the DCOA's funds for equipment purchases. I recommend the board approved another \$30,000 for the purchase of equipment, contingent upon the Workforce Center being awarded a grant that will cover the remainder of the cost.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Equipment purchase match funds for the Industrial Maintenance training module	\$30,000
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RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of resolution DCOA-2015.17 authorizing additional funds of \$30,000 for the Industrial Workforce training program as a match with state grant funds for the purchase of equipment for the Industrial Maintenance training module.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution DCOA-2015.17

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RESOLUTION NO. DCOA-2015.17

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC. ("DCOA"), ABILENE, TEXAS AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AN INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS AS A MATCH WITH STATE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE TRAINING MODULE.

WHEREAS, there is a need for the development of a sustainable, high quality industrial workforce training program for Abilene and Taylor County to meet the needs of existing and future employers in our area; and,

WHEREAS, such a program must be ongoing year after year to address the consistent low unemployment rate of Abilene and Taylor County combined with the deficiency of local workforce participants trained in certain industrial workforce skills; and,

WHEREAS, this continuing program must be able to have the flexibility to add curriculum modules over time as well as remove certain curriculum modules to adequately address the changing industrial demand occupations in our area; and,

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2015, the DCOA approved resolution DCOA-2015.14 authorizing participation with Taylor County school districts and Cisco College during FY 2015-2016 and funding of \$40,000 for an Industrial Workforce Training program for high school juniors and seniors that focuses on training in the areas of HVAC, plumbing, electrical, welding and industrial maintenance; and,

WHEREAS, the training program will begin in August of 2015 at the AISD high schools with the welding and electrical modules being conducted on campus and the plumbing and HVAC being conducted on the Cisco College campus; and,

WHEREAS, the Industrial Maintenance program requires specialized equipment costing about \$100,000, and includes items needed to teach electricity/electronics relay controls, motor/pump controls, electrical power distribution, electrical wiring, programmable logic controllers, hydraulics, and pneumatics; and,

WHEREAS, the Workforce Center will apply to the state for a High Demand Workforce grant that can be used to match the DCOA's funds for equipment purchases; and,

WHEREAS, staff requests the DCOA approve another \$30,000 for the purchase of equipment, contingent upon the Workforce Center being awarded a grant that will cover the remainder of the cost.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC., ABILENE, TEXAS, THAT:

PART 1. DCOA authorizes up to Thirty Thousand and No/100's Dollars (\$30,000.00) for the Industrial Workforce Training Program ("Program") with Taylor County school districts and Cisco College to be used as match funds for a state grant to purchase specialized equipment needed to conduct the Industrial Maintenance module of the Program. This funding is contingent on the Workforce Center applying for and being awarded a grant for the remainder of the funds needed to purchase the necessary equipment.

PART 2. This resolution is contingent upon execution of all necessary agreements. The commitment authorized under this resolution shall expire without notice 180 days from the date of adoption of same unless all required documents and agreements are executed prior to that expiration date or the commitment herein is extended in writing by the DCOA.

PART 3. The Chief Executive Officer of the Development Corporation of Abilene, Inc. is hereby authorized to negotiate any contract and all other related documents on behalf of the DCOA.

ADOPTED this the 11th day of August, 2015.

ATTEST:

Dani Ramsay
Secretary/Treasurer

Dave Copeland
President

APPROVED:

Stanley Smith, Assistant City Attorney

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