

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 22, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Cannon Dani Ramsay
Marelyn Shedd Mike Schweikhard

MEMBER ABSENT: Scott Senter

STAFF PRESENT: Richard Burdine Kim Tarrant
Mindy Patterson Dan Santee

GUESTS PRESENT: Bill Ehrie, Abilene Industrial Foundation/Mil. Affairs Comm.
Jaime Adame, Abilene Reporter-News

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Paul Cannon called the meeting to order at about 1:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator, 1325 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 8, 2011 BOARD MEETING.** Marelyn Shedd moved to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2011 board meeting. Dani Ramsay seconded and the motion carried.
3. **SALES TAX REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011 AND PRELIMINARY STATUS OF FUNDS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2011.** Mindy Patterson reported that the City's sales tax rebate of \$3.86 million received in November represents September sales and is up 24.52% from last November. The sales tax rebate for economic development was \$964,808.
4. **PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE DCOA ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2011.** Richard Burdine focused on the assistance chart within the Annual Report of Activities for FY11. He noted that while FY 2011 may not have been the *best* year for the DCOA in terms of expanding local businesses and recruiting new companies to Abilene, it was not the *worst* year either, considering the economic downtown causing businesses to layoff employees. And in spite of the job layoffs, many companies have discovered ways to still make money with fewer employees. Companies are wary of their improved status, speculating that it may be temporary and therefore, being cautious about rehiring previously laid off employees and/or hiring new ones.

Projects reviewed were Pepsi Beverages who bought Abtex Beverages, Teleperformance USA, Cooperative Response Center, Genesis Networks Solutions, Enavail, Docket Navigator, Project CD, Smith Pipe, TTUHSC School of Nursing-Abilene, TTUHSC School of Pharmacy-Abilene and Center for Immunotherapeutics Research, Project MBO, and Project ML. For FY 2011, 54% of total DCOA assistance was to Abilene companies with total committed job retention of 354 and total job creation of 1,038. The DCOA also assisted ACU with their fourth annual 2011 Springboard Ideas Challenge and helped the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center with its Abilene training program.

Discussion followed about changing the information reported on the DCOA assistance chart to help people better understand financial assistance from the DCOA. The DCOA would like the general public to understand that these companies have made commitments to Abilene and must fulfill them in order to receive their funding. Some suggestions include showing projects that have signed contracts and those that are still pending, while still reflecting that the DCOA has approved assistance and has reserved that money.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** I hereby announce we are going into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, .072, and .087 to consult with our legal counsel, discuss real property transactions, 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 Paul Cannon announced the date is November 22, 2011, and the time is 2:05 p.m. Mr. Cannon later announced the date is still November 22, 2011, and the time is 2:49 p.m. No vote or action was taken in Executive Session.

6. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REVISED INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE ANITA THIGPEN PERRY SCHOOL OF NURSING AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER-ABILENE.** The Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing (SON) at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) in Abilene is temporarily housed in the DCOA-owned Grant Building at 302 Pine St. Hendrick Medical Center recently opened bids to construct a 32,000 sq ft facility to house the SON permanently as an addition to the School of Pharmacy Building at the corner of Pine and North 17th Streets. The campus will have enough space for 200 students and support a total of 36 faculty and staff once fully developed. In May of this year, the DCOA approved infrastructure assistance of \$1,732,100 based on *estimated* qualifying infrastructure expenditures at the time. Bids were opened and the *actual* cost of qualified infrastructure improvements has increased by \$152,256 to \$1,884,356.

Staff recommends the DCOA approve revising the infrastructure assistance and increasing it by \$152,256, from \$1,732,100 to \$1,884,356.

A motion was made by Mike Schweikhard to approve Resolution No. DCOA-2012.04 as presented. Marelyn Shedd seconded and the motion carried.

7. **ADJOURNMENT.** The next meeting is December 16th. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Paul Cannon, President