

months of FY19, SBDC served 292 clients and assisted in securing funding for new businesses in the amount of \$2.9 million with 21 new businesses opening. They were also instrumental in organizing a meeting between the Abilene Industrial Foundation (AIF) and the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC) to determine what benefits the TMAC program could bring to local manufacturing companies. Boots2Business is another training service offered by SBDC to the Dyess Community for anyone desiring to start a business while at Dyess. For the second year in a row, the SBDC partnered with the AIF, Abilene Christian University Griggs Center and DCOA for the BE in Abilene program. SBDC delivers training to the eligible contestants and continues to assist each individual on developing their business plan to present to the judges. Once the winner(s) is announced, the SBDC continues to monitor their progress.

Abilene Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs (MAC): Gray Bridwell, Vice President of Military Affairs, presented their semi-annual report to the DCOA. On March 27, 2019 it was announced that Dyess Air Force Base will house the operational testing and evaluation squadron and a weapons training school for the new B-21 Bomber. He emphasized the importance of state-to-state license equivalency for military spouses to enable them to practice in a different state. MAC continues to advocate in Washington DC to assign pay levels for the purpose of retention at Dyess. The City of Abilene applied for a Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant that the DCOA matched to move a perimeter fence from centerline of the runway.

City of Abilene Airport Business Development (ABI): Kate Alvarez, Marketing and Development Manager for the Abilene Regional Airport, presented their semi-annual report to the board. ABI has continued the “One-Stop to the Rest of the World” advertising theme during the first six months of FY19. Presentations included the Air Service Development public forum, which was an opportunity to get in front of the community to discuss attraction of another airline. TSA Pre Check had another good turnout with 300-500 people from the Big Country attending to sign-up. Enplanement numbers are up 13% over March of 2018, rental car revenue is down 9% and the parking lot revenue is up 5%. Ms. Alvarez and Don Green attended several conferences and were able to meet with American Airlines (AA) to discuss scheduling and seating capacity for ABI’s flights. By August of this year, ABI should be back up to seven daily flights. They have also had several conversations with other airlines and are positive about the outcome.

Abilene Industrial Foundation: Justin Jaworski, Executive Director of the Abilene Industrial Foundation (AIF), presented their semi-annual report. There were thirteen (13) qualified leads in the last 6 months, one is Project Wildcat an international company searching for another location with a potential \$30 million investment and approximately 80 new jobs. Another is Project Tidal Wave, a local manufacturer, and Project Deep Freeze, which could mean a \$75 million capital investment and approximately 600 jobs. Half of the leads asked about work force being able to provide customized training to meet their labor needs before they would relocate to Abilene. The *NEXT*University program has transitioned to the Abilene Education Foundation which has been beneficial to the program. The BE in Abilene entrepreneurship program with DCOA’s backing and funding has evolved with two years of experience in the program.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF DCOA'S SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR SIX MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2019: Charlie Dromgoole, Interim CEO of the DCOA, presented the Semi-Annual Report for the period October 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. The DCOA purchased the former Zoltek properties last year, and staff has worked to have the buildings cleaned and ready for occupancy. The Signature Group did an extensive clean to rid two of the buildings of the heavy carbon fiber residue that was present in the buildings as a result of previous operations. Once the buildings are ready to market, the Abilene Industrial Foundation will begin marketing the properties. Also finalized was the financial assistance with Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company, and construction is underway for FDLIC's expansion. The DCOA approved funds for a regional High Demand Job Training grant that will benefit area school districts to establish a workforce training program at the high school level. With DCOA funding of \$100,000, the Abilene Chamber of Commerce will contract for marketing activities related to the upcoming 2020 census. The Street Expenditures agreement was finalized with the City of Abilene for total funding of \$8.5 million over the next five years. Roof replacement at the airport on the hangars and parts/records storage building occupied by Eagle Aviation Services starts soon to remediate damage caused from the 2014 hailstorm. A product called Tuff Wrap is being installed in the parts/records storage building and Hangar 2 to catch falling debris during the reroofing process. The DCOA purchased 2.5 acres of land on N. 1st Street for a possible manufacturing project and sold 842 and 834 Pine St., otherwise known as the vivarium, to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The DCOA welcomed Sam Vinson as a new board member, and bid farewell to Kent Sharp, former CEO. Charlie Dromgoole was contracted as the Interim CEO until a replacement is chosen.

Seaton Higginbotham moved to approve by oral resolution the Semi-Annual Report of Activities as presented. Sam Vinson seconded and the motion carried.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION I: 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 John Beckham announced the date is May 23, 2019 and the time is 2:40 p.m. Later, President Beckham announced the date is still May 23, 2019 and the time is 4:08 p.m. No vote or action was taken in Executive Session.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUNDS FOR PURCHASE OF A UTILITY BED PICKUP FOR USE BY DCOA'S CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND PROPERTY MANAGER: Mark Zachary reminded the board that they are governed by Section 22.230 of the Texas Business Organizations Code (TBOC) which provides for contracts or transactions involving interested directors, officers and members, and if any board member works in a managerial capacity or has a financial interest in an entity that is involved in a matter that comes before the board, the board member is not prohibited from participating in the discussion or voting on the item (with an exception noted in the TBOC concerning voting to make a loan to a director). However, before discussing and voting on the item, it is recommended that the board member disclose the interest in the other organization(s) to the board.

Charlie Dromgoole presented a request for funds to purchase a utility bed pickup for use by the DCOA's Construction, Project and Property Manager. The DCOA consulted Fleet Management with the City of Abilene in reference to the structure of a bid document, which was then submitted to Lawrence Hall Chevrolet and Arrow Ford. One sealed bid was submitted on May 2nd from Arrow Ford. The bid is for a Ford F350 Super Cab, 1-ton, 4 x 4 long bed, which will be removed for a utility body installation with tool storage compartments. Also included in the Resolution are funds for purchase of after-market accessories that staff indicates are needed for the pickup such as an overhead ladder rack and LED compartment lighting. The bid from Arrow Ford including the utility body was \$43,878, and after-market accessories will cost approximately \$2,000 making the total request \$45,878. The City of Abilene will purchase the truck with fleet pricing and the DCOA will then purchase the pickup from the City.

Jack Rich made the motion to approve Resolution DCOA-2019.20 authorizing funds in the total amount of Forty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Eight and no/100's Dollars (\$45,878.00) to purchase a utility pickup for the Construction, Project and Property Manager. Vic Corley seconded and the motion passed. Seaton Higginbotham abstained from voting because of his financial interest in Arrow Ford.

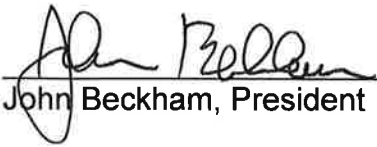
8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDED ASSISTANCE TO THE ABILENE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO ACCOMPLISH AS COMPLETE A COUNT OF ABILENE CITIZENS AS POSSIBLE IN THE UPCOMING NATIONAL DECENNIAL POPULATION COUNT, 2020 CENSUS: Charlie Dromgoole presented a request for revised funding to the Chamber for contracting to accomplish as complete a count of Abilene citizens as possible during the upcoming national decennial population count, 2020 Census. The DCOA had previously approved this Resolution on January 3, 2019 authorizing \$50,000 in FY 2018-2019 and \$50,000 in FY 2019-2020. Most of the expenditures will be in FY 2019-2020 and the Abilene Chamber of Commerce requested that the \$100,000 be available to draw down as needed until September 30, 2020.

Jack Rich made the motion to approve Resolution DCOA-2019.06 REVISED allowing the Abilene Chamber of Commerce be able to draw down up to One Hundred Thousand and no/100's Dollars (\$100,000.00) as needed until September 30, 2020. Seaton Higginbotham seconded and the motion passed.

9. DISCUSSION OF THE TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S SALES TAX TRAINING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN ABILENE ON AUGUST 23, 2019: Charlie Dromgoole informed the board about the opportunity to attend the Texas Economic Development Council's Sales Tax Workshop in Abilene at the Hilton Garden Inn on Ridgemont Dr. in August. He explained that this workshop is a comprehensive tool that is available to learn the intricacies relating to Type A or Type B Economic Development Corporations.

10. DISCUSSION OF NEXT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING: President Beckham announced the next scheduled meeting of the DCOA Board will be on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.

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



John Beckham, President