

**City of Rowlett**  
**Economic Development Advisory Board**

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

9:00 A.M.

*Development Services Conference Room 3901 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088*

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Member Kevin Lawson called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:20 am on November 19, 2014 in the Development Services Conference Room at 3901 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Kevin Lawson, Larry Glick, Tammy Dana-Bashian, Drew Howard, Elaine Ritchie, Diane Lemmons, Brian Funderburk, Jim Proce, Jim Grabenhorst, Nathan Weber, and Lola Isom.*

**2. ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE AND THE STATEMENT OF ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICER TO THE NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS.**

*Lola Isom, Development Services Coordinator, administered the Oath of Office and the Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer to the newly appointed members.*

**3. ELECT CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2014-2015.**

*A motion was made by Drew Howard and seconded by Elaine Ritchie to elect Kevin Lawson as the Chairman and Tammy Dana-Bashian as the Vice Chair. Motion carried.*

**4. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 6, 2014 MEETING:**

*A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Drew Howard to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.*

## **5. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM TASK FORCE PRESENTATION**

*Assistant City Manager Jim Proce gave a presentation regarding the Community Investment Program Task Force. He provided a summary of the initiative, defined the CIP process, presented a list of some project needs, and provided a brief history on Rowlett bond elections.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the 2006 bond election history.*

*There was additional discussion amongst the Board regarding current low interest rates, City Council's direction to stay tax neutral with the bond initiative, and public outreach.*

*Mr. Proce presented the CIPTF website and additional resources that were available.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the website, creating a logo, handouts, and web links.*

*There was additional discussion amongst the Board regarding historical perceptions of the bond election, providing a balanced approach to the initiative, the importance of reinvesting in the community, the traffic management system, and supplemental grants/contributions for projects.*

## **6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

*Mr. Grabenhorst presented the Economic Development mission and vision, the Mayor's message of "A community transformation is underway," and various demographics.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the impact of household income and the bond, tax revenue, the need to diversify the tax base, the residential vs. commercial ratio, developed land vs. undeveloped land, the North Shore Equest property, and the future possibilities of boundary expansions.*

*Mr. Grabenhorst summarized the five-year strategic plan, summarized the department's accomplishments for FY2014, and presented the goals for FY2015. He emphasized the importance of utilizing the Village of Rowlett momentum for marketing the community. He presented information regarding studies performed for the North Shore area and explained the targeted industries.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding redevelopment strategies.*

*Mr. Grabenhorst discussed projects currently underway and summarized the potential opportunity of the Elgin B. Robinson property.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the access to the Elgin B. Robinson property, the marina, and dredging.*

*Mr. Grabenhorst stated that the EDAB discussions for FY2015 would include the Downtown entrance monument, the Rowlett Chamber Foundation, and business retention efforts. He presented the Economic Development Incentive Policy and displayed a list of current incentive projects and the tools that were utilized.*

**7. RECEIVE CHAMBER UPDATE**

*Diane Lemmons, Chamber President, gave the Chamber update to the Board. She stated that the Rowlett Chamber Foundation was granting at the local level for attraction/retention.*

*She stated that she was participating in the liquor petition effort and mentioned that forms are located at the Chamber. She asked for the Board to send citizens her way to complete those forms.*

*Ms. Lemmons stated that business retention visits, community outreach efforts, and partnerships were currently going well. She invited the Board Members to attend the business retention visits, if interested.*

*She announced a few upcoming events such as the Sunset Santa 5K, the stampede on January 23, 2015, Legislative Days in Austin from February 10-11, 2015, and the Young Entrepreneurial Academy class.*

**8. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE**

*Larry Glick presented a document that illustrated the GISD bond figures by campus and discussed some projects within the initiative.*

**9. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

*Mr. Grabenhorst stated that Leadership Rowlett would be coming to the City of Rowlett on November 20, 2014, the Main Street Festival would be held on December 6, 2014, and Friday Night Live with the Chamber Boards & Commissions would be on December 5, 2014.*

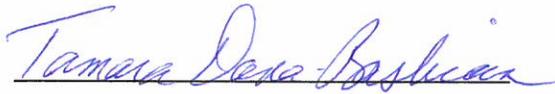
**10. TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS**

Mr. Grabenhorst stated that the Waterview golf activity would be on a later agenda.

There was discussion amongst the Board about allowing more time for the meetings.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 A.M.



~~Kevin Lawson, Chairman~~

Tamara Dana Bushian



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff

March 25, 2015

Date Approved

Bushian, Vice Chair