

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

Tuesday, July 19, 2016

9:30 A.M.

*Rowlett Chamber Building, 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088*

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Chairman Drew Howard called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:30 am on July 19, 2016 in the Rowlett Chamber Building at 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Barry Young, Kevin Lawson, Rick Sheffield, Tammy Dana-Bashian, Diane Lemmons, Larry Glick, Bobby Montgomery, Eva Hummel, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst, Nathan Weber, Lola Isom.*

**2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 21, 2016 MEETING**

*A motion was made by Vice Chairman Barry Young to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Eva Hummel. The motion carried.*

**3. DISCUSSION ON JOINT WORK SESSION WITH CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 2, 2016**

*Chairman Drew Howard reminded the Board that the joint work session with City Council would be held on August 2, 2016.*

*Nathan Weber, Economic Development Specialist, presented a draft presentation in preparation for the joint work session. There was discussion amongst the Board about refining the terms for the Chamber members of the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB), changing the format to have bullets instead of paragraph form, and the overall makeup of the Board.*

*Jim Grabenhorst, Director of Economic Development, provided an overview of the Board's annual accomplishments. There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the mission statement, extending an offer to a representative of Rockwall ISD to serve on the EDAB, the cooperation agreement between the City of Rowlett and the Chamber of*

*Commerce, and presenting the goals that were accomplished and the growth of the Chamber/EDAB relationship to City Council.*

*There was additional discussion amongst the Board regarding short term goals such as Rowlett Legislative Days, Business Retention and Expansion Efforts (BRE), various grammatical changes, roundtables, Chamber survey results, Economic Development Department reporting and website content, and participation in marketing events.*

*The Board discussed long term goals such as the EDAB involvement during the Realize Rowlett 2020 (RR2020) update, planning for the Downtown Monument, the TxDOT Green Ribbon Project funding, participation on the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Board of Directors, makeup of TIRZ and Municipal Management Districts (MMD), DART transportation, and finalizing the PowerPoint that will be presented to City Council at the August 2, 2016 joint work session with the Board.*

#### **4. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE**

*Member Bobby Montgomery stated that the Rebuild Rowlett fund had raised \$223,000 to date, provided an update on the Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) progress, and mentioned that a Chamber staff member had been hired to assist with tornado recover effort. He said that the Chamber is projecting \$19,000 to be given out in signage grants for the year. Mr. Montgomery announced that Rowlett Legislative Days would be held on February 15 and 16, 2017.*

*Diane Lemmons, President of the Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Bayside Regatta will be held in October of 2016 and that planning is underway. The Bayside Regatta will be a fundraiser with proceeds going towards Rebuild Rowlett.*

#### **5. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE**

*Member Larry Glick announced that Collin County Community College will be developing a campus in Wylie, stated that there will be decreased Garland ISD (GISD) funding from the federal government due to a recent Supreme Court decision, said that there would be a 10% cut in the GISD budget and a freeze on hiring new employees, and mentioned that there is potential for Tax Ratification election (TRE) in the future. Mr. Glick announced that the Career and Technology Center would be opening in 2017/2018, said that GISD ranked 8<sup>th</sup> on the Educational Equality Index, and mentioned that the natatorium is currently over budget. He said that he is now considered "Master Trustee" and will present at a state convention.*

*There was discussion amongst the Board regarding workforce development progress, succession planning in entry level careers, National Math and Science Institute (NMSI) testing preparation, and TRE.*

**6. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

*Member Diane Lemmons stated that there would be a "Surrounding Rowlett Police Department in Prayer" event on July 23, 2016. She said that there was good attendance at the recent candlelight vigil.*

**7. TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS**

*There was discussion amongst the Board in regards to upcoming topics for future EDAB agendas such as having a DART representative speak to the Board. The Board discussed following up and preparing for the upcoming joint work session with City Council on August 2, 2016. Mr. Grabenhorst suggested skipping the August meeting due to summer schedules and reminded the Board that the City Council work session with the Chamber of Commerce would be held on September 20, 2016. Ms. Lemmons announced to the Board that she recently graduated the Institute of Organizational Management.*

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at 11:18 A.M.*



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Drew Howard, Chairman

9/20/16

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Date Approved



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Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff