

March 2014 Meeting Minutes

Greater Nocona Area Economic Development Corporation (Type A) & Nocona Municipal Economic Development Corporation (Type B) at the Tales and Trails Museum, March 3rd, 2014

Agenda items:

I. Roll call and call to order: Type A & Type B – Confirm Quorum for Type A & Type B

Tracey O'Neil called the Type A Board to order at 12:11 pm. Also present were Don MacLaughlin and Cassie Mitten.

Suzanne Storey called the Type B Board to order at 12:11 pm. Also present were Robert Herndon, Brandi Shipman, Phil Staley and Martha Underwood.

Also present were: Lynn Henley, Nocona City Manager; Heath Heller, Nocona Indian Oaks Golf Committee member; and Mike Shipman.

1. Acceptance of February meeting minutes Type A & Type B

Both Boards approved the February meeting minutes with one correction: The date for the NRA Banquet is May 22

2. Acceptance of January Type A & Type B financials

Both Boards accepted the January financials as presented.

II. NOCONA ISD SWIMMING POOL PROJECT PUBLIC HEARING

The Boards opened the public hearing at 12:15 pm.

The director explained that after talks with the company that installed the filters, the two year replacement is probably more likely for Nocona's size of pool and the constant operations during the summer. The company, Crystal Clear Pools in Muenster, also offered to replace the filters at \$95.60 per filter including labor (\$1,529.60 total for the 16 filters). Staff is still researching costs with Nocona ISD, but chances are they will be able to purchase at about \$65 a filter (\$1,040) and can install them themselves.

Being no other comments, the Boards closed the public hearing at 12:18 pm

III. CITY WATER GRANT LEVERAGE PROPOSAL

Lynn Henley, Nocona City Manager reminded the Board members that last year the city submitted a water line grant application and requested the NEDC Boards assist with leverage funds of \$13,750. The director submitted a letter for the application, but city staff wanted to wait until the grant was approved to formally ask for the monies. The project has been approved, so the city staff is officially asking for the leverage funds. The project totals \$330,000 with the City spending \$41,250 and TxCDBG \$275,000. **Both Boards agreed to split the \$13,750 grant evenly. The Type B Board requested the project be put on the 60 day clock. The Type A Board requested staff place a request for the March City Council Meeting to approve its participation.**

IV. NOCONA ISD TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

The director noted that the Nocona ISD was requesting assistance in obtaining \$22,732 for additional equipment, continuing to promote technology, especially supporting the moving image classes. The equipment would augment equipment the NISD has already obtained costing more than \$21,000. Conversations between Ms. Gearheart, the Nocona ISD Superintendent, and the Nocona EDCs' director acknowledged how important these classes have become in creating a synergy between the various creative arts like photography and performing arts and she would appreciate assistance in moving the educational opportunities forward.

There was no representation from the Nocona ISD, so both Boards felt unable to judiciously move forward on the proposal. They left open the opportunity for the Nocona ISD to resubmit the proposal at a future date.

V. INDIAN OAKS GOLF COURSE PROPOSAL

Heath Heller representing the golf committee sought assistance with a new greens mower, golf cart batteries and the two applications of Zeolite minerals. The mower the committee wants to replace is 13 years old. In 2009, Nocona EDCs assisted with purchasing a different mower at \$30,000, split 50 – 50 with the golf course over three years, amounting to \$5,000 per year for three years; They are requesting 5 cart battery sets at \$600 each, totaling \$3,000 and the Zeolite is \$5,500. The entire proposal is for \$13,500 - \$3,000 more than approved last year. The director reminded the Board members that last year, under the recent legislation, the Type A Board participated in this Type B project.

Both Boards agreed to split the \$13,500 grant evenly. The Type B Board requested the project be put on the 60 day clock. The Type A Board requested staff place a request for the March City Council Meeting to approve its participation.

VI. NOKONA BASEBALL GLOVE TOURNAMENT PROPOSAL

The director explained the Nokona Baseball Glove company is proposing a baseball tournament in Nocona. They would like assistance at the baseball fields with a grant of not more than \$3,000. Rob Storey was not able to be at the meeting to provide more details. Since the event is time sensitive Board members agreed to move forward, but wanted more information from the American Original Ballglove Company before approving any funds.

Both Boards agreed to split the \$3,000 grant evenly. The Type B Board requested the project be put on the 60 day clock. The Type A Board requested staff place a request for the March City Council Meeting to approve its participation.

VII. BUSINESS OF THE YEAR SELECTION

The director reminded members of the Boards that the Nocona Chamber of Commerce annual banquet is March 27. Nocona EDCs traditionally have named a business of the year. Last year was the new apartments, additionally the Boards have covered most of the major players over the last ten years.

The Boards determined their preference for the 2014 Business Award to be presented at the Nocona Chamber Banquet.

VIII. TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL INTERN PROGRAM

The director noted it is once again time to participate in the Rural Intern Program through the Texas Department of Agriculture. Staff is looking at have one intern in the month of June. Projects include helping with Texas GIS process. The intern would be responsible for collecting data from Nocona's current businesses, entering the data, review and submission. Also, the week of June 22-29th Nocona is looking to host a summer Movie Camp program. Staff would like the intern to assist as a mentor during that week as needed with the Movie Institute.

As usual, NEDC will provide a place for the intern to stay, cover meals, as well as a small stipend.

Both Boards approved participation in the 2014 Rural Intern Program.

IX. Staff Updates and Travel

1. Wayfinding Signage Update

Don MacLaughlin and Brandi Shipman said they were researching costs and ideas.

2. Chamber of Commerce Director Position Update

Staff noted that with Mardi Gras complete, now might be time for discussions to determine interaction and roles or the Board presidents might want to look at working with the new Chamber officers after the banquet.

3. Project Ballistics Update

Remington was NOT the project participants. Last staff asked, the project was still evaluating locations.

4. Lady's Day Out Update

Staff is coordinating details with the author.

5. Montague Boot Contracts Update

Indications are efforts continue to move forward.

6. Texas Wide Open for Business Marketing

It's time for the Governor's annual economic development magazine again. Although it's a different agency putting it together, the cost for our ½ page add remains about the same: \$3,200 vs \$3,090 last year. However, for an additional \$320 we can select where in the magazine (staff suggest maybe the digital media section). This is one of the few economic development marketing tools staff suggests consistently invest in.

Following discussion on its merits and the need to improve the advertisement, both Boards approved participation in the magazine at the higher level. Staff was asked to canvass members on which section to be in.

7. Community Development Institute Training, March 3 – 6, The Woodlands, executive assistant

8. TEDC Spring Conference, March 5 – 7, Dallas, director

9. Executive Assistant Vacation, March 13 – 17

10. NCTC Starlight Gala, March 22, Gainesville

Staff explained it's time for this evening of support for NCTC Foundation. Tickets are \$30 or \$240 for a table of 8. In the past the Boards have bought tickets for any members that would like to attend.

The Boards agreed to share one table at the Gala. Martha Underwood volunteered to help fill the seats.

11. Texas Travel Industry Unity Dinner, Austin, March 25

Staff normally only attend this during legislative sessions. Since this is a non-legislative year and no one knows who will be in office next session, the staff suggests to forgo the dinner.

12. Sales Tax Training, May 16, Richardson, director, executive assistant, new Board members

Staff need final confirmations of who all will go in order to purchase registrations. The staff and new Board members will attend.

X. Items of community interest

March 27: Nocona Chamber of Commerce Banquet

XI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm