

DURANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

November 13, 2017 AT 4:00 P.M.

Durant Industrial Authority Conference Room

I. Call To Order.....Greg Massey
Tommy Kramer called the regular monthly Durant Economic Development Council Meeting to order.

II. Opening Invocation Robert Holliday

III. Introduction of Guests Tommy Kramer

IV. Roll Call..... Laura Voorhies
The following members were present: Billy Blackburn, Ron Boyer, Bob Delveaux, Eddy Dempsey, Mike Goodwin, Bryan Hallmark, Jeff Hammock, Robert Holliday, Greg Massey, Larry Miller, Janet Reed, Rick Roy, Tim Rundel, Jerry Tomlinson and Martin Tucker.

The following members were absent: Curtis Armor, Shaun Banner, Robert Bourne, Sean Burrage, Kara Byrd, Jeri Cockrell, Bert Davison, Scott Dewald, Stephanie Garner, Chris Glendening, Tammye Gwin, Ketan Jain, Kyle McLemore, Darrell Mendez, Fran Mickle, Rick Roy and Jeff Tarrant.

The following guests were present: Dan Pennington (Durant Democrat), Richard McPhearson (OG&E), Charles Calhoun and Jim Thorpe.

V. Consideration and Action of August 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes Tommy Kramer
Robert Holliday motioned to accept with a second by Greg Massey. The motion carried by:

Aye: Billy Blackburn, Ron Boyer, Bob Delveaux, Eddy Dempsey, Mike Goodwin, Bryan Hallmark, Jeff Hammock, Robert Holliday, Greg Massey, Larry Miller, Janet Reed, Rick Roy, Tim Rundel, Jerry Tomlinson and Martin Tucker.

Nay: None

VI. Consideration and Action of the 2018 Economic Development Council Meeting ScheduleGreg Massey

Greg Massey stated there would be the following changes to the 2018 meeting schedule:
May 14, 2018 to May 7, 2018 - - October 8, 2018 to October 9, 2018 - - November 12,2018 to November 13, 2018.

Janet Reed motioned to accept with a second by Jerry Tomlinson. The motion carried by:

Aye: Billy Blackburn, Ron Boyer, Bob Delveaux, Eddy Dempsey, Mike Goodwin, Bryan Hallmark, Jeff Hammock, Robert Holliday, Greg Massey, Larry Miller, Janet Reed, Rick Roy, Tim Rundel, Jerry Tomlinson and Martin Tucker.

Nay: None

VII. Present City of Durant Monthly Sales Tax Report Tim Rundel

Tim Rundel advised sales tax was up almost 4% for the month and 6% year to date. There is some concern for when the new companies construction ends, but hope to keep the momentum going.

VIII. OG&E Economic Overview of Oklahoma Richard Corneilson

Richard Corneilson, Economic Development Project Manager presented an economic overview of Oklahoma (presentation available upon request).

Mr. Corneilson stated that his advice to Durant is to keep the Durant Industrial Authority the main focus, as it is what is known and has been and should continue to be the point of contact for this area. It is imperative to keep the momentum going, keep “your foot on the gas pedal” because you have strong brand recognition right now.

IX. Update on the Durant Industrial AuthorityGreg Massey

Greg Massey stated that the Durant Industrial Authority is open for business with Paul Buntz serving as the Interim Director until a new Executive Director is hired.

Bob Delveaux asked if the City will begin funding the DIA again.

Greg Massey stated that he, Jerry Tomlinson and Tim Rundel were working on a solution that should be completed next month and it will include funding the DIA.

Ron Boyer asked if there was a strategy for the companies coming into Durant or do you look at anything that comes through the door.

Greg Massey stated that the companies that we want in Durant are the ones that aren’t going anywhere. Durant is fed by the Dallas economy. We are trying to obtain better jobs for the under employed. We are heading to the point where retail will start looking at Durant as an option.

X. Update on the SteelFab Project Paul Buntz

Paul Buntz stated he met with the President and Superintendent for SteelFab and they have broken ground and are on schedule to be completed in 2018.

XI. New BusinessGreg Massey

Tim Rundel stated that on the City Council Agenda there is to be approved a full time city planner and building official and the City will be getting an intern from OU.

XII. AdjournmentGreg Massey

Greg Massey called the meeting adjourned.