

## MEETING MINUTES

**NOTICE OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE WHITEWRIGHT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
HELD AT THE WEDC/CHAMBER OFFICE – 113 W. GRAND,  
ON MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 COMMENCING AT 5:30 P.M.**

1. **Attendance/Notice of Meeting:**

- 1.1. **Board Members:** Kelly Selman, Gwyn Jordan, Amy Shaw.
- 1.2. **Absent Board Members:** Justin Minzenmayer
- 1.3. **Guests:** Kristi Avalos, Bethel Ranch; Karri Donoho, B Board member; Chris Ely, City of Whitewright
- 1.4. **EDC Staff:** Olivia Hutchison, Administrative Assistant
- 1.5. **Notice of Meeting:** To be accepted and received as posted and distributed.
- 1.6. **Called to Order:** At 5:36 PM Kelly Selman, President called this meeting to order.

2. **Visitor's/Citizens Forum:**

Kristi Avalos from Bethel Cannon Ranch, Whitewright, TX was present to bring the A Board up to date on what is going on at Bethel Ranch. Bethel Cannon Ranch is in the process of being turned into a training facility that will teach marketable skills to individuals who want to restart their careers or just need a change. The Lodge at Bethel Ranch will be turned into a Bed & Breakfast that will offer training for culinary, customer service and hospitality. Culinary certificates will be offered through Culinary Institutes of America. There is a retail store onsite where people can learn retail, marketing and purchasing skills. There will also be training for event planning and catering. Landscape training will be offered along with certification for Master Gardener from the North Texas Master Gardener Association. People coming to the ranch for training will have their goals and skills matched up with a new career. They will receive training that helps them build their resumes and once training is completed, they will be given assistance with find jobs. Individuals are paid during training however will not live on the ranch. Bethel Ranch is also in the process of acquiring and old western town from Story Book Ranch in McKinney, TX. The old western town consisting of 19 buildings from the 1800s will be moved to Bethel Ranch here in Whitewright. This will be televised shortly on the news and Good Morning Texas. The is a very good possibility this will involve the Snow sisters from Ft. Worth and be on HGTV. Once the town has been moved on site construction skills will also be taught. The fund raising will began shortly to help with all these processes. Bethel Ranch will not only work with training adults but plans to include the FAA students and young people during the summer. The Bethel Ranch facilities will be available for rent by the general public for private and public events. A large pavilion and opry house is being added with the relocation of the old town that will seat up from 200-300 people. The old town being relocated to Bethel Ranch will also have include additional sleeping quarters with the addition of the old hotel and mansion from the old western town.

3. **Action Items:**

- 3.1. Approve Minutes from February 8, 2021 EDC Regular Meeting. Motion to Approve: Amy Shaw. Seconded: Gwyn Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.
- 3.2. Approve February 2021 Financial Report. Motion to Approve: Gwyn Jordan. Seconded: Amy Shaw. Motion carried 3-0.

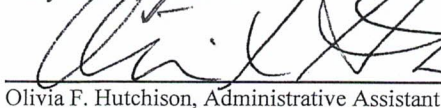
4. **Informational Reports:** (These reports are for information only. No discussion is appropriate unless there is a specific item listed below or there is a request that the item be placed on a subsequent agenda as a discussion and action item. Sec. 551.0415 of Open Meetings Act):

- 4.1. Board Members Concerns: John (Mabary) from Edward Jones will come to our next meeting in April. Kelly had a conversation with him regarding the market trends and make will make recommendation about where to place available funds.
- 4.2. Chris Ely with the City of Whitewright Library updated us on the new City of Whitewright website. A sample of the website was shown and Chris explained what is expected to be added to the website in addition to what was seen. A brief description will be included to the page for 4A and 4B Board's home pages explaining what each group does. The website is expected to go live April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 4.3. A Domino's Pizza is going to open next to Spring Market, a Mexican restaurant in Bells, Tx will come back to the downtown Whitewright and the Donut Shop reopen under new management by the current owner of the building. Just Wright opened up where Farm House Coffee use to be. Also, a hair salon is in the back of the building where House of Payne was. House of Payne closed the Whitewright location.
- 4.4. Question was asked as to where we are on the repairs of City Hall building, no updated information has been presented. Karri Donoho with B Board did mention that the B Board was leaning towards possibly contributing a set amount. Kelly Selman would consider taking up the discussion again when the entire A Board is present and more information is available.

5. **Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned by Kelly Selman, President at 6:09 PM. Motion to Adjourn: Gwyn Jordan. Seconded: Amy Shaw. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS THE 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2021.

  
Kelly Selman, President

  
Olivia F. Hutchison, Administrative Assistant