

Waxahachie Community Development Corporation
May 10, 2022

A regular meeting of the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation (WCDC) was held in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Daniel Morton, President
Bob Lynn, Vice President
Judy Demoney
Elizabeth Tull
David McSpadden

Members Absent: Doug Barnes, Mayor
Michael Scott, City Manager

Ex-Officio Chad Tustison, Director of Finance
Members Present:

Ex-Officio Amber Villarreal, City Secretary
Members Absent: Kevin Strength, President/CEO Chamber of Commerce

Others Present: Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Laurie Mosley, Director of Convention & Visitors Bureau
Chris Seale, Horticulturist
James Villarreal, Assistant Director Sports Complex
Jami Bonner, Assistant City Secretary

1. Call to Order

President Dan Morton called the meeting to order.

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of minutes of the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation regular meeting of March 1, 2022 and special meeting of March 18, 2022

Action:

President Dan Morton moved to approve minutes of the WCDC regular meeting of March 1, 2022 and special meeting of March 18, 2022. Ms. Elizabeth Tull seconded, All Ayes.

4. Consider authorizing the use of Convention Visitors Bureau FY22 contingency funds for Total Solar Eclipse Event in 2024

Director of Convention & Visitors Bureau Laurie Mosley requested approval to utilize CVB FY22 contingency funds to purchase solar eclipse viewing glasses for an event to be held in April 2024. She explained the glasses are selling quickly and would need to use the funds immediate to purchase approximately 20,000 glasses to be distributed to WISD facilities and community businesses for the event.

Stuart Stephenson shared his experience with attending a similar 2017 event in Illinois and the positive impact it had on the community.

Sandy King, WISD Community Outreach Coordinator, shared the school district is excited to partner with the City to provide locations for the solar eclipse event and educational opportunities.

Mr. Dave McSpadden encouraged Ms. Mosley to start preparations early and market the event to bring tourism and community involvement to Waxahachie.

Action:

Mr. Dave McSpadden moved to approve authorizing the use of Convention and Visitors Bureau FY22 contingency funds in the amount of \$10,000 for the Total Solar Eclipse Event in 2024. Vice President Bob Lynn seconded, All Ayes.

5. Hear update of activities from Convention & Visitors Bureau Director

Ms. Mosley presented an update of activities noting several successful events including the ongoing Scarborough Renaissance Festival, Hachie 50 Ultra Marathon, Vintage Market Days, and Crossroads of Texas Film & Music Festival. She stated plans continue for Crape Myrtle Festival, Cowboy Poet Gathering, Stampede of Speed and Texas Country Festival. Ms. Mosley reported \$31,000 of the estimated \$38,000 needed for the Crape Myrtle Festival has been raised and encouraged Board members to share suggestions for sponsorship partners. She announced the headliner for the Texas Country Reporter Festival will be Diamond Rio.

6. Hear update of activities at the Civic Center

Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks and Leisure Services, announced April Ortiz, Civic Center Director, provided an update for the packet.

7. Hear update of Community Beautification

Chris Seale, Horticulturist, provided project updates for seasonal color change outs, Chautauqua Landscape Phase 2, Wags-A-Hachie Dog Park, Waxahachie Farmers Market, Ferris Avenue Median Landscape Improvements, Broadhead Road Median 4, and Park Schoolhouse Rd. Median 3 and 4. Mr. Seale noted supply chain issues; however, he is working to build relationships with new vendors to alleviate issues and complete projects.

8. Hear update of activities at the Sports Complex

James Villarreal, Assistant Director, reviewed the April and May tournament schedule and noted only one rain out occurred thanks to the newly installed synthetic turf fields. He provided an update on the running track noting the asphalt has been laid and rubber will be installed after the required fourteen 14 day waiting period. Mr. Villarreal shared the new Sports Complex maps which will help visitors navigate the facility easily and efficiently via the website and signage posted around the Complex.

9. Hear update on Lake Parks Improvement Project

Mr. Martinez presented the Lake Parks Improvement Plan which addresses issues at Boat Dock Park, Jetty Park, and Spring Park including public safety, access, and utilization. He noted the Plan was prepared by a Steering Committee consisting of Park Board members, City Council members, and City management staff and adopted by the Park Board and City Council.

Mr. McSpadden inquired if a water safety officer is being considered for Boat Dock Park during peak weekends. Mr. Martinez replied that with the new design for parking and moving the boat launch, he believes many of the issues will be alleviated. Albert Lawrence, Deputy City Manager, noted boat traffic can be monitored and possibly ticketed with a gate access system.

President Dan Morton encouraged enforcement to limit boats on the lake. He inquired about how the City will keep the lake level at appropriate levels. Mr. Lawrence replied that the Utilities Department is monitoring pumps and electrical issues to improve back up power to ensure lake levels are where they need to be to provide drinking water.

Mr. Martinez thanked the WCDC members for supporting the Wags-A-Hachie Dog Park.

Ms. Judy Demoney asked if there is consideration to connect the Wags-A-Hachie Dog Park with the Farmers Market. Mr. Martinez replied staff is considering opportunities.

10. Hear update on Mid-Way Airport

Darrell Phillips, Airport Manager, shared the city councils for Midlothian and Waxahachie both approved the Don Jackson Hanger project. He noted the hangers will be a 16,648 sq. ft. facility and will be a \$1.1 million development. Once complete and an occupancy permit is obtained, Mr. Jackson will deed the hanger to the Mid-Way Regional Airport. Mr. Phillips detailed the ground lease and construction agreement for individual hangers with no cost to the City of Waxahachie or City of Midlothian. The Airport will receive revenue from resale of the hangers and ground lease fees.

Mr. Phillips explained the Airport is moving forward with a Master Plan to plan for development inside and outside of the Airport fence. He noted the runway project has been moved to 2024, but Airport Board is working on design work now.

Mr. Phillips encouraged WCDC members to attend the Pancake Breakfast event on June 4th.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jami Bonner
Assistant City Secretary