

**MINUTES
STAFFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022**

On the 24th day of May, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., the Stafford Economic Development Corporation, Texas met in regular session in the City Council Chamber in said City.

1. Call meeting to order and roll call of Board of Directors.
President Guerra called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Board Directors were present: President Wen Guerra, Vice President Ken Mathew, Director Joe Rome, Director Randy Krahn, and Director Lawrence Vaccaro. Absent: Director Gwen Goodwin. The following City staff were present: Roxanne Benitez, City Secretary, Jose Pastrana, Public Works Director, Alka Shah, Finance Director, and Charles Williams, Attorney for Olson & Olson.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
President Guerra led the Board in the pledge to the United States flag.
3. Discussion of financial matters of the Corporation, including:
 - (a) Presentation of Finance Statements, investments, and other financial reports.
Finance Director Alka Shah presented the financial statements, investments, and reports.
 - (b) Public comments on item (a).
No public comments were made.
 - (c) Consideration of appropriate action on item (a).
Director Mathew motioned to approve all finance statements, investments, and other financial reports as presented, and Director Rome seconded. Directors Guerra, Mathew, Rome, Krahn, and Vaccaro vote "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.
4. (a) Discussion of Engagement Letter Agreement with Whitley Penn for auditing services and authorizing the Mayor to execute.
Finance Director Alka Shah advised that the Stafford Economic Development Corporation was currently in the third year of a five-year contract.
 - (b) Public comments on item (a).
No public comments were made.
 - (c) Consideration of appropriation action on item (a).
Director Krahn motioned to approve the engagement letter agreement with Whitley Penn for auditing services and authorizing the Mayor to execute, and Director Mathew seconded. Directors Guerra, Mathew, Rome, Krahn, and Vaccaro vote "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Introduction of New Public Works Director Jose Pastrana by Mayor Willis.
Mayor Willis introduced Public Works Director Jose Pastrana and spoke on his many years of experience. Mr. Pastrana advised that he would update the Board, keeping them informed.
6. Updates by Public Works Director and discussion regarding current projects, including:
 - (a) Update on decorative light poles on US Highway 90A.

Public Works Director Jose Pastrana advised that TxDOT was replacing light poles throughout the City. Mr. Pastrana also advised that replacement poles would be kept on site.

(b) Discussion on clean-up and replacement of landscaping foliage on US Highway 59 and 90A.

President Guerra advised that several plants and foliage were destroyed by Winter Storm Uri. He also advised that there was trash, weeds, and remnants from crashed vehicles in that area. Mayor Willis advised that TxDOT is scheduled to clean-up the area and repair landscaping. Public Works Director Jose Pastrana advised that TxDOT removed 87 dead trees.

(c) Update on replacement of panel in screen wall located along the railroad track.

President Guerra advised that a panel was damaged due to a vehicle crash. He also advised that a replacement panel had been difficult to locate and suggested that the panel be repaired. Public Works Director Jose Pastrana advised that he is currently working with Director Vaccaro and City Engineer Bob Jones on the location of a replacement panel and installation.

(d) Update on new businesses opening in Stafford.

President Guerra advised of a new development on Highway 90 and Grand Lane, which would contain a restaurant, coffee shop, and gas pumps. He also advised that the construction of the new 7-11 was going well. President Guerra advised of other new businesses coming to Stafford such as a private ambulance service, street sweeping business, new warehouses, and a potential chain store for the Grid. He also advised that Leonetti graphics, which previously had the sales office in Missouri City and the production office in Stafford, would now be located solely in Stafford.

(e) Public comments on items (a)-(d).

No public comments were made.

(f) Consideration of appropriate action on items (a)-(d).

No action was taken.

7. Discussion of matters relating to the Stafford Centre including:

(a) Report by Bryan Blaum, President of FMSquared, on event schedules, marketing plans, operations, statements, and productions.

FMSquared President Brian Blaum advised that business during the week and on weekends had increased. He also advised that the Stafford Centre offered unique venues such as ballrooms and performing art centers, and added that they had received repeat business. Mr. Blaum advised of the following Stafford Centre events:

- June 1 – Emilio Lovera
- June 15 – Senior Expo & Health Fair
- June 24 – Stars of the Sixties
- July 9 – Everything Grows in the Valley
- July 16 – The Hedge

Director Rome exited the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Director Rome entered the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

- September 17 – Fort Bend Music Fest featuring Anthony Hamilton
- October 22 – The Black Jacket Symphony
- November 25 – DCappella - Deck the Halls with Disney
- February 28, 2023 – Mania the ABBA Tribute

President Guerra asked for details on the Taste of Louisiana Fest. Mr. Blaum advised that, by request of the coordinator, the event was currently on hold. He also wanted to

inform everyone that grant funds for hotel occupancy taxes and promoters, were currently available.

(b) Public comments on item (a).

No public comments were made.

(c) Consideration of appropriate action on item (a).

No action was taken.

8. (a) Approval of the minutes of joint meeting with City Council on March 22, 2022.

(b) Approval of the minutes of the SEDC meeting on April 26, 2022.

(c) Public comments on items (a)-(b).

No public comments were made.

(d) Consideration of appropriate action on items (a)-(b).

Director Rome motioned to approve the minutes for the meetings that occurred on March 22, 2022 and April 26, 2022, and Director Leonetti seconded. Directors Guerra, Mathew, Rome, Krahn, and Vaccaro vote "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.

9. (a) Request for future agenda items from the Board of Directors.

No requests were made.

(b) Public comments on item (a).

No public comments were made.

(c) Consideration of appropriate action on item (a).

No action was taken.

10. To hold an executive session as authorized by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Section 551.071, consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation on appropriate items on the agenda that fall within the attorney-client privilege relations; and Section 551.087 (2) to discuss or deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiation.

The Board of Directors did not go into executive session.

11. Adjournment.

Director Rome motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m., and Director Vaccaro seconded. Directors Guerra, Mathew, Rome, Krahn, and Vaccaro vote "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.

ATTEST:


Wen Guerra, President


Joe Rome, Secretary