

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the Gun Barrel City Economic Development Corporation

The Gun Barrel City Economic Development Corporation met in a Special Board meeting at the office located at 1720 West Main Street, Gun Barrel City, Texas, 75156 on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. Webster called the meeting to order with the following directors present: Gary Damiano, James Cavanaugh, Sandy Janow, Pat Cassady, Linda Rankin, and Larry Spiegel

Paul Eaton, Gerry Boren, David Webb (The Monitor), Connie Holubar were also in attendance. A quorum was established.

Item #1. 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Presentation by and discussions with Laurie O'Neal, Office of the Governor - Economic Development and Tourism East Texas Region, about state economic development programs, services, and opportunities for Gun Barrel City.

O'Neal shared information about Governor Perry's economic development efforts, including his recent trips to California and Illinois, and his visit to the NRA Show in Houston. She cited several success stories that have come out of his recent efforts.

Using the state's economic development website, TexasWideOpenforBusiness.com, O'Neal showed regional maps, demographic information, and a variety of different sources of information that are on the site that serve as resources both to communities in Texas and those businesses or their site selectors that are researching relocation options within Texas.

During questions from the group, O'Neal shared examples of communities that have focused in on specific industries (such as Paris, TX, where there is a nucleus of food manufacturing and packing businesses), and discussed how each situation is different. She said that some corporate relocations can bring allied businesses like vendors and suppliers that follow the primary business to the state.

O'Neal discussed how communities can receive leads from the state and discussed the requirements for participation in the program, including the need for specific economic development education and the following of standard operating procedures for completing a Request for Proposal.

She said relocating businesses want to walk the dirt and see the city. She felt that the EDC's website and marketing materials were a good start toward creating a positive impression of Gun Barrel City and she promised to send additional information to help with specific opportunities that may be appropriate for the town.

Adjourn: 5 p.m.

Approved by:



Steve Webster, President

Attest by:



Pat Cassady, Secretary