

**City of Rowlett**  
**Economic Development Advisory Board**

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

9:30 A.M.

*Rowlett Chamber of Commerce, 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088*

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Drew Howard called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:40 A.M. on December 18, 2018 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce, 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Tammy Dana-Bashian, Drew Howard, Michael Gallops, Whitney Laning, Barry Young, Eva Hummel, Larry Glick, Elaine Ritchie, Michael Smith, Mick Donnelly, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst, Lexie Woodward and Susan Nix.

**2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 16, 2018 MEETING.**

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Barry Young to approve the October 18, 2018 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. THE BOARD SHALL CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, §551.087 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT) TO DISCUSS COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND THE OFFER OF INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS PROSPECTS THAT THE CITY MAY SEEK TO HAVE LOCATE, STAY OR EXPAND IN ROWLETT AND WITH WHICH THE CITY IS CONDUCTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

The Board convened into Executive Session at 9:49 A.M.

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 11:00 A.M.

**4. TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS.**

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

**5. RECEIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT UPDATE.**

Director of Economic Development, Jim Grabenhorst presented the Economic Development Department update. He introduced new staff member Lexie Woodward, Economic Development Specialist. He mentioned the sales tax numbers for the fiscal year were very strong. He said we eclipsed the \$7 million dollar mark in sales tax revenue for the first time in Rowlett's history. He then said they will be briefing Council tonight in Executive Session on the latest conversations with Bayside.

**6. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE.**

Whitney Laning stated that the Chamber Board passed their annual budget earlier today, one of the largest budgets to date, with exciting programming. He then mentioned they hired a new Membership Coordinator, Jaci Mouser, who comes from MISD.

Whitney Laning gave the Chamber Foundation update. He stated the Chamber Foundation provided a sign grant to Winfield Cookies.

**7. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE.**

Larry Glick provided the GISD update. He stated they will provide a GISD growth plan update for all Rowlett schools at the next EDAB meeting. He mentioned they were going in front of the Garland City Council this evening to request the ability to sell alcohol at the Gilbreath-Reed Center. He then mentioned the groundbreaking for the Natatorium is being planned for early in 2019.

**8. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND/OR STAFF MAY MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF LOCAL CIVIC EVENTS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS NOR TAKE ANY ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

City offices will be closed Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> for the Holidays, and also Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Year's Day; The Chamber office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's Day; Next month's Chamber Luncheon will be on the third Wednesday of the month, Tammy will be giving the State of the City Address.

**9. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY REQUEST TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS ANY OF THE REQUESTED SUBJECTS UNTIL SUCH MATTER HAS BEEN PROPERLY PLACED ON A POSTED AGENDA.**

Jim Grabenhorst mentioned the GISD growth plan presentation is to be scheduled for the January or February EDAB meeting; Whitney Laning requested a pipeline report from Economic Development regarding upcoming opportunities; Economic Development staff is working on scheduling a tour of the new Rockwall ISD Dr. Gene Burton Career and College Academy.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at 11:17 A.M.



Drew Howard, Chairman

3/19/19

Date Approved



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff