

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
MISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**APRIL 17, 2012 5:30 PM
CITY HALL**

PRESENT:

Catherine Garcia, President
Polo de Leon, Vice President
Ricardo Martinez, Treasurer
Linda Requenez
Councilman Ruben D. Plata served in the Mayor Position

ABSENT:

S. David Deanda, Jr., Secretary
Jody Tittle

ALSO PRESENT:

Ricardo A. Perez, Consultant
Norman Winter, Exec. Dir., NABA
Virginia Townsend, NABA Board
Tomas Tijerina, NABA Board
Fred Kurth, Melden & Hunt

STAFF PRESENT:

Julio Cerda, City Manager
Alex Meade, Chief Executive Office
Janie Flores, Finance Director
Daniel Silva, Chief Operating Officer
Judy Vega, Executive Assistant
Bertha Ramirez, Administrative Assistant
John Hernandez, City Engineer
Roberto Salinas, Public Works Director

1. Call to order

With a quorum being present Catherine Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2012

Subject to a correction on the "Present" section of the minutes to add David H. Guerra, City Attorney, Ricardo Martinez moved for approval. Motion was seconded by Linda Requenez and approved 5-0.

3. Approval of Financial Statements for the month of March 31, 2012

Janie Flores, Finance Director, presented and recommended approval of the Financial Statements for the month of March 31, 2012.

There being no corrections or additions Polo de Leon moved for approval. Motion was seconded by Linda Requenez and approved 5-0.

4. Public Hearing – MEDC Budget Amendment to FY 2011-12 Budget:

- (1) North American Butterfly Association (NABA) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000;
- (2) Invest an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 within in a 10 year period into a regional project that will attract high growth and knowledge based business;
- (3) Superior Oil Express job creation grant in an amount not to exceed \$20,000;
- (4) Sanitary Sewer extension west of Inspiration Rd on FM 495 in an amount not to exceed \$165,000;
and
- (5) Offsite drainage improvement on Travis St. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.

President Garcia opened the public hearing at 5:37 p.m. and asked for comments on the Budget Amendment to FY 2011-12 Budget.

Project #1 - Mr. Norman Winter, Executive Director with the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) presented his comments. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to present and said that the Texas Butterfly Garden proposed project will be vital to the community because once completed, it will be a major part of wildlife corridor with the World Birding Centers. The Texas Butterfly Center is flagship to NABA and their goal is to construct a major ecotourism attraction in the Rio Grande Valley. Ecotourism generates \$300 million in revenues in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Mr. Winter mentioned that this fall, the butterfly park had over 2,100 people from 36 states and five countries. Their request of Mission's \$100,000 contribution will be crucial for the \$1.5+ million project. NABA Advisory Board members Mr. Tijerina and Mrs. Townsend made brief comments in support of the project.

Project #2 - CEO Alex Meade mentioned that this is a regional project that will attract high growth and knowledge based businesses. The amount is not to exceed \$1,000,000 within a 10 year period.

Project #3 - Mr. Meade mentioned that Superior Oil Express is a project that had been undertaken by Mission Economic Development Authority, but that when the transition began, the process stalled. Mission EDC would like to honor Superior Oil Express' request for a job creation grant in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for 20 qualified jobs. The grant will be available when the company provides proof that 20 qualified jobs were created.

Project #4 - Mr. Meade said that Sanitary Sewer extension west of Inspiration Road on FM 495 was an area being considered for a future commercial development; however, in order to attract a potential big box developer, infrastructure needs to be in place. Mission EDC would like to participate in the costs implicated in placing in the infrastructure on the property, an amount not to exceed \$165,000. City Engineer Hernandez and Public Works Director Salinas presented exhibits related to the proposed infrastructure.

Project #5 - Mr. Meade said that this project is an off-site drainage improvements on Travis St. near the Corinthian and adjacent to the La Quinta Hotel in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. City Engineer Hernandez and Public Works Director Salinas presented exhibits related to the proposed off-site improvements.

There being no further comments, President Garcia declared the public hearing closed at 6:00 p.m.

The notice of public hearing and notice of intention to undertake the projects was published on March 23, 2012 and the 60 day comment period will end on May 21, 2012.

5. Consider and take action to issue a Letter of Intent between Mission EDC and Hi-Tech Plastics, LLC

Mr. Meade said that Hi-Tech Plastics LLC has been in Mission for a long time. The company plans to do a \$4.8 million expansion and their plans are to bring in more machinery and hire 22-28 employees. The cost in facility improvements to accommodate the new machinery will not exceed \$57,000. Mr. Meade said he is presenting the letter of intent to the Board today to make them aware on how the MEDC Budget will be impacted. The company is also requesting a tax reimbursement incentive on the new investment for five years. Brief discussion took place.

After the discussion, Ricardo Martinez moved for approval of Letter of Intent between Mission EDC and Hi-Tech Plastics, LLC. Motion was seconded by Polo de Leon and approved 5-0.

6. Authorization to publish notice of intention to authorize a Budget Amendment to the FY 2011-12 Budget and schedule a public hearing for May 29, 2012 related to said authorization

Mr. Meade said he would like the Board's authority to publish a notice of intention to authorize a Budget Amendment to MEDC's FY 2011-12 Budget and schedule a public hearing on May 29, 2012 for the consideration of the following projects: (1) Small Business Fund in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; (2) Tech Prep in an amount not to exceed \$25,000; (3) Hi-Tech Plastics, LLC facility improvements in an amount not to exceed \$57,000; (4) Convention Center Feasibility in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; and (5) Master Plan Services in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

Polo de Leon moved for authorization to publish notice of intention to authorize a Budget Amendment to the FY 2011-12 Budget and schedule a public hearing for May 29, 2012 related to said authorization. Motion was seconded by Linda Requenez and approved 5-0.

7. Executive Session pursuant to V.T.C.A. Gov. Code Sec. 551.001

Consultation with Attorney Sec. 551.071

A. City of Mission and Mission Economic Development Corporation vs Mission Economic Development Authority

The MEDC Board will reconvene in open session to take any actions necessary

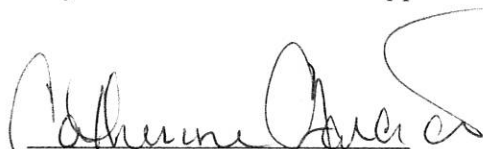
The Board did not go into Executive Session and did not otherwise consider this item.

8. President's Comments

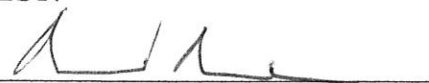
President Garcia welcomed Ricardo A. Perez, who presented a brief report on the planning stages of the upcoming Legislative Session in January 2013.

9. Adjournment

Polo De Leon moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Ricardo Martinez and approved 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.


Catherine Garcia, President

ATTEST:


S. David Deanda, Secretary