

**MINUTES OF**  
**THE HONDO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, (HEDC)**  
**CITY OF HONDO**  
**TYPE B ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**HEDC REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**700 Vandenberg**  
**Airport Board Room**  
**Hondo, Texas 78861**

**June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**1. Roll call to determine presence and Quorum.**

Chair J. Gruber, Treasurer Brett Riff, Rose Mary Mares, Roger Hernandez, Rachel Ramirez

Absent: Vice Chair Ronnie Miller, Secretary Ashley Lowe

Staff Present: EDC Director Doug Dowler, EDC Business Retention & Expansion Sean Patty

**2. Call to Order.**

"President J. Gruber called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m."

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

No comments were made by a visitor.

**4. Consent Agenda**

**a. Minutes from the May 2024 meeting.**

**b. Financial reports for May 2024.**

**Action item:** Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Brett Riff motioned to accept consent agenda and Rose Mary Mares promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

## 5. City of Hondo Fund Request

No representative was present, no request was made and no action was required.

## 6. Review & Update Hondo Economic Development Corporation By-Laws

Executive Director Doug Dowler presented the updated by-laws to the board. He explained that the only change since last September was made at the request of the city to remove term limits. The updated by-laws now state that there will be staggered two-year terms, but board members can serve as many terms as desired or as the city desires to keep them in position. Doug clarified that no other changes were made from the version approved last September.

- Rose Mary Mares asked for clarification on whether the city council wanted to limit terms. Doug confirmed that the city council did not want term limits and that board members were copied on an email from the Mayor supporting this decision.
- Doug mentioned that he had originally suggested three-year terms with a maximum of three terms (nine years total) but emphasized the advantage of having experienced members who understand the board's operations and have a vested interest in its success. He noted that all council members agreed with this perspective and saw no reason to limit terms.

**Action item:** Motion to approve updated By-Laws

Rose Mary Mares motioned to approved updated By-Laws and Roger Hernandez promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

## 7. Review, discuss & possible action of Board Member Terms of Service

It was discussed that the council representative will serve a one-year term, reappointed annually by the council. The rest of the board members will have staggered terms, with half serving two-year terms and the other half serving the following two years. This staggering ensures continuity and prevents the loss of all board members at one time.

Drawing for Terms:

Jay: 3 years  
Roger: 2 years  
Brett: 3 years  
Rosemary: 2 years  
Ashley: 2 years  
Ronnie: 3 years  
Rachel: 1 year

**Action item:** Motion to approve Board Member appointment & terms.

Rose Mary Mares motioned to approve Board Member terms and Brett Riff promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**8. Review & discussusson and possible action on Personnel matters & Economic Development Projects.**

**Action item: Motion to approve discussion of Personnel matters in closed session due to deliberation of the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. Under Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.**

Rose Mary Mares motioned to approve discussion of Personnel matters in closed session and Roger Hernandez promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Action item: Motion to approve discussion of Economic Development Projects in closed session due to deliberation of a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the governmental body if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third party. Under Section 551.073 of the Texas Government Code.**

Roger Hernandez motioned to approve discussion of Economic Development Projects in closed session and Rose Mary Mares promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Action item: Motion to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion of Personnel matters and Contract negotiations.**

Rose Mary Mares motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion of Personnel matters and Contract negotiations and Roger Hernandez promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN MEETING TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA PERTAINING TO PERSONNEL MATTERS & CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A closed executive session may be conducted under authorization of Texas Government Code Annotated Chapter 551. Such closed meetings may be held only for the purpose of a discussion. Any action as a result of a discussion, must be taken in open session. The following executive session is authorized under Section 551.074, to deliberate the appointment. Employment, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

**The following executive session is authorized under Section 551.073, to deliberate the contract negotiations.**

President J. Gruber entered into Executive Session at 5:08 p.m.

**9. Return to open session from closed session.**

- a. **Return to open session.**
- b. **Discuss and/or take appropriate action, if any, regarding personnel and contract matters.**

President J. Gruber exited out of Executive Session at 5:38 p.m.

**Action item: Motion to approve agreement with Texas Downtown.**

Roger Hernandez motioned to approve agreement with Texas Downtown. Rachel Ramirez promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Action item: Motion to approve agreement with Marketing Alliance.**

Brett Riff motioned to approve agreement with Marketing Alliance. Roger Hernandez promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Action item: Motion to approve the promotion of Sean Patty to Executive Director effective July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the stated salary.**

Rachel motioned to approve promotion of Sean Patty to Executive Director effective July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the stated salary. Brett Riff promptly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Action item: Motion to approve the funding request of the Hondo Area Chamber of Commerce for the requested amount of \$35,000 for funding of expenditures as a chamber, tourism & program operations.**

J Gruber motioned to approve the funding request of the Hondo Area Chamber of Commerce for the requested amount of \$35,000 for funding of expenditures as a chamber, tourism & program operations. Rachel Ramirez promptly seconded the motion. Rose Mary Mares abstained from the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**10. Business Retention & Expansion Report**

No further reports were made from Sean Patty, Business Retention & Expansion.

**11. Executive Director Report.**

No further reports were made from Doug Dowler, Director of Economic Development.

**12. Directors Comments.**

No further comments were made from EDC Board Members.

**13. Adjourn.**

Chair of the Hondo EDC Board, J. Gruber, entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m. Roger Hernandez made a motion and Rachel Ramirez seconded. The motion was approved 5-0.

**Attest:**



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**Ashley Lowe**  
**Board Secretary**

On 7/25, 2024