



The Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce

**NOTICE THAT A REGULAR CALLED MEETING OF THE
GREATER PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE HELD AT
CITY HALL, COMMISSIONERS' ROOM,
118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS
COMMENCING AT 12:00 PM ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A) Roll call and possible action on the excusing of any absent member.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

A) Approval of minutes for January 11, 2024 - Regular called meeting.

B) Treasure's Report of Accounting Summary - Period ending January 31, 2024.

3. ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A) President's Administrative Report.

1. Memberships Report.

2. Current Projects and Initiatives.

3. Upcoming Events.

4. BOARD ACTION AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

A) Discussion on upcoming Strategic Planning Session to be held on February 13, 16, or 20, 2024.

B) Consideration and action, if any, amending Corporate Bylaws for the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce.

C) Consideration and action, if any, on appointment of members to the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

5. CLOSED SESSION: *In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Gov't. Code, the Board hereby gives notice that it may meet in a closed (non-public) executive session to discuss the items listed on the public portion of the meeting agenda in accordance with the following below:*

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING
February 6, 2024

Pursuant to Section 551.071, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting with its attorney and discuss any matters related to **legal advice on pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer, and/or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.072, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters related to **real property and deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property as such would be detrimental to negotiations between the City and a third party in an open meeting.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.074, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters related to **appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties and discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee and to hear any complaints or charges against an officer or employee.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff including members so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.076, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters on the **deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.084, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters involving an **investigation and may exclude a witness from hearing during the examination of another witness in the investigation.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.087, the Board may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters regarding **economic development issues.** The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

6. **RECONVENE:** *into Regular Session and consider action, if necessary, on any item(s) discussed in closed session*

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING
February 6, 2024

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of said Meeting of the Board of the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall and on the City's web page at www.pharr-tx.gov. This Notice was posted on the 2nd day of February 2024 at 4:30 p.m. and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated (Open Meetings Act).

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, this 2nd day of February 2024




HILDA PEDRAZA, TRMC, CMC
CITY CLERK

**MINUTES
GREATER PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024
118 S. CAGE BLVD, PHARR, TX 78577**

The Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. and the following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mario Lizcano
Sonia Flacón
Alma Caso
Dr. Annabelle Palomo
Laura Warren
Johnny Rodriguez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alex Rios
Ernesto Sepulveda
Lisann McAlpine
Jose Delgado

STAFF PRESENT: Carlos Javier (CJ) Sanchez, President/CEO
Eloina Gonzalez, Membership Manager
Erica Martinez, Chamber Specialist

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER

Mario Lizcano, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Board Member Laura Warren **moved** to excuse absent members. Board Member Dr. Annabelle Palomo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Board Member Sonia Falcon was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 12:15 p.m.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

A) SERVICE AWARDS FOR EXITING BOARD MEMBERS

Mario Lizcano, Chairman, thanked exiting Board Members Alex Rios, Ernesto Sepulveda, and Lisann McAlpine for their time served to the Chamber. Board Member Laura Warren also thanked the exiting Board Members for their time and voluntarism to the organization.

Mario Lizcano, Chairman introduced C.J. Sanchez, new Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce President, and CEO. Mr. Sanchez thanked the Board for the opportunity and stated he was excited to be a part of the organization. He further stated he looked forward to growing the organization and highlighting the City of Pharr.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE GREATER PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Mr. Lizcano, Chairman, introduced the item. He asked Board Members if they would like to suggest or vote on potential candidates and names would be discussed at the next meeting.

Board Member, Dr. Annabelle Palomo, recommended Jerry Madox. She stated Mr. Madox served as member of the Pharr Economic Scholarship Foundation and was the owner of Fazoli's Restaurant. Dr. Palomo stated she had a conversation with Mr. Madox regarding Board of Director duties and responsibilities.

Board Member, Laura Warren, stated that she had spoken with Robert Lozano. She stated Mr. Lozano was the founder of many businesses and owner of Dariy Queen and had a son who could be considered as a candidate to be on the Board of Directors.

Board Member, Dr. Annabelle Palomo asked if these individuals could be voted in now. C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President, suggested reviewing the Bylaws first so decisions could be in alignment with the Bylaws and then appoint accordingly.

Mr. Lizcano stated once candidates were reviewed, they would be recommended by a committee to be approved by the Board.

C) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 5, 2023 – REGULAR CALLED MEETING

Board Member Laura Warren moved to approve. Board Member Alma Caso seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Board Member Sonia Falcon entered the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 12:15 p.m.

D) TREASURER'S REPORT OF ACCOUNT SUMMARY PERIOD ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2023

Mario Lizcano, Chairman, introduced the item.

Board Member Sonia Falcon reported income taxes for 2023 were filed and asked staff to request a copy of the tax return from Karla Saavedra, Finance Director.

Board Member Sonia Falcon also asked staff to follow up Finance Department on the budget for the Avocado Festival. Mr. Sanchez stated he had a meeting scheduled already with the Special Events Department.

There being no discussion, Board Member Laura Warren **moved** to approve. Board Member Johnny Rodriguez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 3. ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) PRESIDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mario Lizcano, Chairman, introduced the item.

2. CURRENT PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President, reported he would be meeting with the City Attorney regarding the Bylaws to ensure they were in accordance with the organization. He further proposed a Board Retreat for all onboard and current Board Members to organize, re-evaluate the structure of the Chamber, and strengthen resources the Chamber can provide to the community.

C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President, also reported he would be meeting with Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, to plan accordingly for Avocado Festival and he would also meet with Victor Perez, PEDC Director to collaborate and strengthen the resources between PEDC and the Pharr Chamber for the community.

Lastly, C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President, reported on the Ambassador Program Kick off meeting. He stated the meeting would consist of encouraging Board Members and Chamber Members to be more involved with the Chamber to see how the Chamber can better this program.

1. MEMBERSHIPS REPORTS

Eloina Gonzalez, Membership Manager, went over the membership report. She stated as of January 2024 there were one hundred and eighty-six (186) total active members, eight (8) were new members and seven (7) were renewals. Ms. Gonzalez also indicated which members for January were silver, gold, and corporate.

Board Member, Sonica Falcon recommended all Chamber members represent their business as an ambassador for the Ambassador program and give at least one person from each business access to keep up to date with all upcoming events for the City of Pharr.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

Eloina Gonzalez, Membership Manager, reported the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce hosted the Hub Market Days on December 8, 2023, and a Winter Blanket Drive on December 18, 2023, for the residents of the San Juan nursing Home.

Eloina Gonzalez, Membership Manager, further reported they hosted the last Networking Mixer of the Year at Suerte Bar and Grill on December 20, 2023, and a market at Medical Ridge Plaza in collaboration with PEDC to help bring in community engagement to businesses on December 21, 2023.

Lastly, Eloina Gonzalez, Membership Manager, reported the Chamber would be hosting a dual Ribbon Cutting ceremony and Networking Mixer for Yess Pilates & Brisamka Aesthetics on January 11, 2024, and encouraged the community to join.

Erica Martinez, Chamber Specialist, reported the Hub Market Days would take place on January 13, 2024, and invited the community to attend the market.

Erica Martinez, Chamber Specialist, further reported they would be hosting the first DHR Health and Wellness series for the year on January 24, 2024, and encouraged the community to join. Lastly, she reported they would be hosting another Hub Market on February 3, 2024, and invited the community to attend.

Board Member, Sonia Falcon suggested to start advertising for Avocado Festival at the Hub market events for the community. At this time, C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President reminded the board to secure their seats for upcoming State of the City.

At this time, Mario Lizcano, Chairman, stated they would go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 4. CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE BOARD HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT MAY MEET IN A CLOSED (NON-PUBLIC) EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING BELOW.

The time being 12:30 p.m., Mario Lizcano, Chairman, stated the board would be entering into closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

ITEM 5. RECONVENE

The time being 12:45 p.m., Mario Lizcano, Chairman, stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE GREATER PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Lizcano, Chairman, re-introduced the item.

Board Member, Dr. Annabelle Palomo voiced her concern with Board Officer positions. C.J. Sanchez, Chamber President, stated this would be discussed and voted at the next meeting.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board Member Sonia Falcon **moved** to adjourn. Board Member Johnny Rodriguez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Mario Lizcano, Chairman

Alex Rios, Vice Chairman

Alma Caso, Secretary



Pharr, TX

Balance Sheet

Account Summary

As Of 01/31/2024

Account	Name	Balance
Fund: 81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE		
Assets		
81-1-1002-000	PETTY CASH	100.00
81-1-1004-000	CLAIM ON CASH	6,251.42
81-1-1005-000	BANK - OPERATING ACCOUNT	278,712.97
81-1-1006-000	BANK - CONTINGENCY	104.49
81-1-1230-000	ACCOUNTS REC OTHER	0.00
81-1-1401-000	DUE FROM GENERAL FUND	0.00
81-1-1420-000	DUE FROM HOTEL FUND	0.00
81-1-1486-000	DUE FROM PEDC	0.00
81-1-1486-086	DUE FROM PEDC	0.00
Total Assets:		285,168.88
		285,168.88
Liability		
81-2-0121-000	MAYOR'S EVENT	0.00
81-2-0211-000	TEC TAXES PAYABLE	96.34
81-2-0234-000	ESCROW - MAYOR'S EVENT	0.00
81-2-0235-000	ESCROW-GOLF TOURNAMENT	2,519.22
81-2-0236-000	ESROW- AVOCADO FESTIVAL	-93,640.64
81-2-1230-000	ACCOUNTS REC OTHER	0.00
81-2-2000-000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2,245.60
81-2-2001-000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2,830.23
81-2-2002-000	INCOME TAX WITHHELD	0.00
81-2-2003-000	SOCIAL SEC. TAX WITHHELD	0.00
81-2-2004-000	MEDICARE TAX WITHHELD	0.00
81-2-2005-000	PAYROLL CORRECTION	0.00
81-2-2101-000	WAGES PAYABLE	0.00
81-2-2102-000	COMPENSATED ABSENCES	0.00
81-2-2102-002	COMPENSATED ABSENCES - CURRENT	0.00
81-2-2104-000	ESCROW-AL BENTLEY YATES-FS	0.00
81-2-2107-000	A/P - ICMA	0.00
81-2-2113-000	A/P - AMERITAS - VISION	48.27
81-2-2117-000	A/P - AMERITAS - DENTAL	171.88
81-2-2120-000	A/P - CHSUP	0.00
81-2-2125-000	A/P-UNITED HEALHT INS EMPLOYEE	4,065.96
81-2-2126-000	A/P - FRONTIER	0.00
81-2-2130-000	A/P - TERM LIFE	0.00
81-2-2131-000	A/P - LEGALSHIELD	0.00
81-2-2132-000	AP - CHUBB LIFETIME	0.00
81-2-2133-000	A/P - COLONIAL	-7.40
81-2-2134-000	A/P - MUTUAL OF OMAHA/BASIC LF	11.31
81-2-2135-000	A/P - LINCOLN STD/LTD	69.70
81-2-2136-000	A/P - MAGELLAN (EAP)	4.30
81-2-2137-000	A/P - TMRS-EMPLOYEE PORTION	-544.92
81-2-2140-000	A/P - UNITED WAY	0.00
81-2-2147-000	A/P - UNUM PROVIDENT	112.38
81-2-2152-000	A/P - MASA MTS	27.00
81-2-2154-000	A/P - HEALTHIEST YOU	26.81
81-2-2157-000	A/P - NATION WIDE PET	0.00
81-2-2401-000	DUE TO GENERAL FUND	33,323.99
81-2-2486-000	DUE TO PEDC	0.00
81-2-2486-086	DUE TO PEDC	0.00
81-2-2495-000	DUE TO PAYROLL FUND	3,611.87
Total Liability:		-45,028.10

Balance Sheet

As Of 01/31/2024

Account	Name	Balance
Equity		
81-3-3101-000	UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	301,090.57
81-3-3981-000	PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT	2,498.39
	Total Beginning Equity:	303,588.96
Total Revenue		104,090.23
Total Expense		77,482.21
Revenues Over/Under Expenses		26,608.02
	Total Equity and Current Surplus (Deficit):	330,196.98
	Total Liabilities, Equity and Current Surplus (Deficit):	285,168.88



Pharr, TX

Budget Report

Account Summary

For Fiscal: 10/2023-09/2024 Period Ending: 02/29/2024

		Original	Current	Fiscal	Variance	Percent
		Total Budget	Total Budget	Activity	Favorable (Unfavorable)	Remaining
Fund: 81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE						
Revenue						
81-4-4227-000	CREDIT CARD-SURCHARGE	0	0	147.69	147.69	0
81-4-4663-000	INTEREST EARNED	0	0	1413.56	1413.56	0
81-4-4676-000	MEMBERSHIP	0	55000	13767.06	-41232.94	74.97
81-4-4677-000	SPONSORSHIP	0	36000	7249.51	-28750.49	79.86
81-4-4677-007	CHAMBER PROCEEDS	0	0	8712.41	8712.41	0
81-4-4883-020	TRANSFER IN-HOTEL FUND	0	68400	22800	-45600	66.67
81-4-4883-086	TRANSFER IN - PEDC	0	150000	50000	-100000	66.67
Revenue Total:		0	309400	104090.23	-205309.77	0.663574
Expense						
81-51000-1100-000	SALARIES	0	153000	37799.53	115200.47	75.29
81-51000-1104-000	OVERTIME	0	3000	1782.23	1217.77	40.59
81-51000-1105-000	F I C A	0	12500	2923.96	9576.04	76.61
81-51000-1106-000	HOSPITAL INSURANCE	0	22200	0	22200	100
81-51000-1106-001	HOSPITAL INSURANCE	0	0	11652.8	-11652.8	0
81-51000-1107-000	ANNUAL WORK COMP INSURANCE	0	500	0	500	100
81-51000-1108-000	T E C TAXES	0	1500	109.05	1390.95	92.73
81-51000-1110-000	PAYROLL DIFFERENCES	0	0	2500	-2500	0
81-51000-1114-001	FRONTIER	0	500	605	-105	-21
81-51000-1115-000	EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT	0	19600	4891.57	14708.43	75.04
81-51000-1122-000	EAP - ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	0	100	0	100	100
81-51000-1123-000	HEALTHIEST YOU	0	300	83.61	216.39	72.13
81-51000-2201-000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0	5000	1016.81	3983.19	79.66
81-51000-2202-000	POSTAGE	0	200	132	68	34
81-51000-2203-000	FURNITURE	0	16000	0	16000	100
81-51000-2208-000	OTHER OPERATING SUPPLIES	0	4000	2696.36	1303.64	32.59
81-51000-2220-000	NON CAPITAL EQUIP&SUPPLIES	0	1000	0	1000	100
81-51000-3301-000	BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	0	15000	0	15000	100
81-51000-4401-000	OFFICE EQUIPMENT RENTALS	0	1000	297.08	702.92	70.29
81-51000-5501-000	COMMUNICATIONS	0	3000	413.83	2586.17	86.21
81-51000-5502-000	ADVERTISING	0	7900	4096.42	3803.58	48.15
81-51000-5503-000	TRAVEL EXPENSE	0	5200	722.54	4477.46	86.11
81-51000-5505-000	DUES & PUBLICATIONS	0	8000	498.97	7501.03	93.76
81-51000-5508-000	SPONSORSHIP	0	2500	650	1850	74
81-51000-5509-000	PUBLIC RELATIONS	0	10000	4348.49	5651.51	56.52
81-51000-5528-000	81510005528000	0	10000	0	10000	100
81-51000-5535-000	BANK CHARGES	0	3500	846.6	2653.4	75.81
81-51000-6601-000	GAS & OIL	0	500	95.36	404.64	80.93
81-51000-6603-000	CITY GARAGE REPAIRS	0	400	0	400	100
81-51000-9926-000	MAYOR'S EVENTS	0	3000	0	3000	100
Expense Total:		0	309400	78162.21	231237.79	0.747375
Fund: 81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Surplus (Deficit):		0	0	25928.02	25928.02	0
Report Surplus (Deficit):		0	0	25928.02	25928.02	0

Group Summary

Account Type	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Fiscal Activity	Variance	
				Favorable (Unfavorable)	Percent Remaining
Fund: 81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE					
Revenue	0	309400	104090.23	-205309.77	0.663574
Expense	0	309400	78162.21	231237.79	0.747375
Fund: 81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Surplus (Deficit):	0	0	25928.02	25928.02	0
Report Surplus (Deficit):	0	0	25928.02	25928.02	0

Fund Summary

Fund	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
81 - PHARR CHAMBER OF COMM	0	0	25928.02	25928.02
Report Surplus (Deficit):	0	0	25928.02	25928.02