

**MINUTES
PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024
118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR**

The Pharr Economic Development Corporation II met in a regular called meeting on Monday, February 19, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and the following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Board Member Comm. Ricardo Medina
Board Member Comm. Dr. Ramiro Caballero
Board Member Mario Lizcano
Board Member Reynaldo Perez
Board Member Michael Pacheco

MEMBERS ABSENT: Board Member Dr. Ambrosio Hernandez
Board Member Marty Moore

STAFF PRESENT: Victor Perez, PEDC President/CEO
Jonathan Flores, City Manager
Jamison Merick, Interim Finance Director
Karina Lopez, PEDC Manager
Maribel Garcia, Executive Administrative Assistant

PEDC ATTORNEY: Jerry Muñoz

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Vice Chair, Mario Lizcano called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Board member Reynaldo Perez moved to excuse absent members. Board member Commissioner Ricardo Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it was carried unanimously.

At this time of the Agenda Commissioner Michael Pacheco joined the meeting time being, 3:25 p. m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Victor Perez, President/CEO led the pledge of allegiance Mario Lizcano, Board member said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A) PEDC II EVENTS OF INTEREST.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager informed the Board about upcoming events. She stated we will be having a special announcement presentation for Workforce Enhancement Initiative in the upcoming weeks for a collaborative initiative that will provide funding geared towards creating opportunities to meet the growing demand of specific industries in our region.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager invited the Board to the Business in Pharr Workshop she stated the Pharr EDC is partnering with various city departments and the Pharr Chamber to host informational workshop for those looking to open or extend their business in Pharr, she stated several representatives would be on site to talk about the basics, requirements, and their services. Workshop would be on March 7, 2024 at the Pharr One Facility

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager informed the Board about the Pharr EDC Foundation scholarship applications now open and will close March 14, 2024 at 5:00 pm. She stated the EDC Foundation has now open its scholarship applications to graduating high school seniors enrolled in the 2023-2024 academic school year seeking post-secondary opportunities. She further stated students must reside in the city of Pharr or attend school in Pharr, maintain a grade point average of 2.5, and must have 15 hours of community service or internship at Pharr.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager invited the Board to the 3rd annual casino night presented by the Pharr EDC Foundation on March 21, 2024 at the Regency Hall in Pharr. She stated the EDC Foundation would be hosting the 3rd annual casino night in support of the scholarship program for graduating Pharr seniors seeking post – secondary education.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager invited the Board to the Pharr EDC & Zitacuaro Michoacan, Mexico MOU Signing March 15, 2024. She stated that as a result of building bilateral relationships through our international initiatives, we would be hosting an official MOU signing event alongside the Municipality of Zitacuaro, Michoacan Mx.

B) SALES TAX REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024.

Victor Perez, President/ CEO, reported February sales tax report, he stated Pharr ranked number nine with 0.48% increase from las year. He stated the PEDC is working hard to bring sales and property tax to the city of Pharr.

C) ICSC DALLAS REPORT.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager informed the Board about ICSC Report. She stated the PEDC had the opportunity to attend the ICSC in Dallas an annual retail convention that brings brokers, commercial developers, retailers, and communities together for recruitment opportunities. During the event we successfully scheduled over twelve meetings with a variety of representatives to promote the city of Pharr. She further stated that we are currently under active engagement with Satori project on Owassa Rd. and Jackson. This project will offer both residential and commercial opportunities, additionally we are moving forward with Levcor one of the most recent upcoming developments now branded Restaurant Row and an extension of the Pharr Town Center. She stated we would be hosting an event alongside Levcor in the upcoming month for an official announcement on this new construction.

ITEM 4. CONSENT AGENDA:

Victor Perez, President/CEO, introduced the item.

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES- DECEMBER 18, 2023.

Board Member Commissioner Ramiro Caballero moved to approve. Board Member Reynaldo Perez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it was carried unanimously.

At this time, Vice Chair, Mario Lizcano stated they would deviate from the agenda and go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 6. CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CGAPTER 551 TEXAS, GOVERNMENT CODE, VERNON'S TEXAS CODE ANNOTATED (OPEN MEETING ACT), THE PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II BOARD WILL MEET IN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

The time being 3:12 p.m., Vice Chair, Mario Lizcano stated the Board would be entering into closed session in accordance with Sections 551.071 thru 551.087 of the Texas Government Code.

ITEM 7. RECONVENE:

The time being 3:27 p.m., Vice Chair, Mario Lizcano stated the board will be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 5. REGULAR AGENDA – OPEN SESSION:

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON TOGIVE INTERNATIONAL REQUEST.

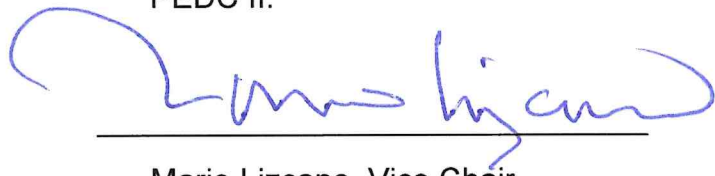
Vice chair, Mario Lizcano introduced the item and stated staff recommended approval as discussed in closed session.

Board Member Reynaldo Perez moved to approve. Board member Commissioner Ricardo Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it was carried unanimously.

ITEM 8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, Board Member Commissioner Ricardo Medina moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Board Member Commissioner Ramiro Caballero and when put to a vote, the motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

PEDC II:



Mario Lizcano, Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Commissioner Ramiro Caballero, Secretary

APPROVED:

March 18, 2024