

North Central Texas Economic Development District (EDD)
Board Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2020 |11:00 am
Audio/Video Conference Call (Zoom Virtual Meeting)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Marty Wieder, Chair, opened the meeting at 11:00 am, by welcoming everyone and thanking them for contributing their time. Lucille Johnson, Assistant to the NCTCOG Executive Director, took attendance.

2. Introduction of New Board Member

Marty Wieder introduced and welcomed new Board member Pamela Mundo, Founder and President of Mundo and Associates Consulting Firm to fill a vacancy in the private sector category. Lucille Johnson also recognized and welcomed Mary Ann Moon to the call. She explained that Mary Ann was recommended by the Mayor of the City of Prosper who is also Vice-President of the NCTCOG Executive Board. Lucille will seek Mary Ann's appointment at the NCTCOG Executive Board's July meeting.

3. Approval of June 1, 2020 Minutes

Lucille Johnson explained that she had just emailed the members a corrected version of the minutes and asked them to look at the corrected version. She explained that there are two names that are misspelled in the original meeting minutes: Chris Dyser and Jeff Sandford. In the corrected version, the spelling of those two names were corrected.

The corrected minutes were approved unanimously after a motion by Jennette Espinosa and a second by Fred Schmidt.

4. Brief on the EDA CARES Supplemental Funding to the North Central Texas Economic Development District

Lucille Johnson reminded the Board that the District had applied for CARES Act funding to be used to assist the local governments and non-profit businesses in the region with recovery efforts resulting from the negative impacts of COVID-19. She announced that the maximum amount of \$400,000 had been awarded. She explained that the funding would be used to hire an additional staff member at NCTCOG to help with economic recovery efforts and to update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS).

She also explained that although \$30 million was listed in the CARES Act materials as the maximum amount of funding awarded for a project, each EDA region can decide how they plan to allocate their funding for CARES Act projects, and the Austin EDA region anticipates awarding much smaller projects ranging between four and five million dollars.

5. District Update

- a. New Board Member Orientation – Lucille Johnson briefed the Board on the Orientation Sessions that had been conducted and were ongoing.
- b. NCTEED New Staff Position Request to COG Board to Authorize – Lucille Johnson explained that she would be asking the NCTCOG Executive Board to approve the hiring of a full-time Economic Development Disaster Coordinator for a period of 24 months. She

explained after approval the position will be advertised almost immediately, and she was hopeful that hiring will be completed within a month, if possible. She also explained that this person would help with updating the CEDS, which is scheduled to be updated in 2021. Lucille said that as a result of the grant award, EDA will allow an extension of 24 months, the time of the CARES Act grant, to update the CEDS, which is updated every five years. The CEDS document on the website will be updated to reflect the extension.

- c. Update on Regional Assistance for EDA CARES Act Funding - Lucille Johnson explained that the Austin EDA region has \$260 million in CARES Act funding for projects within its five-state region. She said that the funds will probably run out quickly and encouraged entities to start working on their applications. She also said that she would be available to assist them as they think through their projects and would be happy to review all applications prior to their submission to EDA.
- d. Board Vacancies (Up to 51 Seats on the NCTEDD Board) - Lucille Johnson again emphasized that there were vacancies on the Board and encouraged the members to review the vacancies and to help with filling them. She said she is working with several Counties to try to get more representation on the Board.

6. Open Discussion on District Assistance for EDA CARES Act Funding Applications

The Board members discussed specific questions and issues. Lucille Johnson emphasized that the EDA was open to small projects ranging from \$100,000 up to the \$4 - \$5 million maximum range. She reminded the members that the advantage of funding through the CARES Act Program is the elimination of the economic distress requirement because, through the CARES Act Program, the Country has been designated as Special Need and the funding percent rate is 80/20, with a possible 100% funding percent for projects with more serve negative economic COVID-19 impacts. Lucille said that it would be crucial to have competitive projects that demonstrate a strong connection to the negative impact of COVID-19. She said she would be happy to review any special projects or requirements (like NEPA) or to help with Transportation Department review and approval of projects, including letters of support from the District.

7. New Business

There was no new business

8. Next Meeting Dates

Marty Wieder suggested that the next meeting be around the middle of August and members thought that an August meeting could be useful as they each navigated their way through the impact of and needs resulting from COVID-19. Board members suggested possible briefings on a number of issues, including school issues, Workforce and Economic impacts, and possibly have an epidemiologist speak to the Board on ways that might be useful to assist with Fall school openings.

9. Adjournment

Marty Wieder adjourned the meeting at 11:53 am.

Attendance:

Board Members

1. Michael Talley
2. Jeff Sandford
3. Phil Wagner
4. Lisa McMillan
5. Erica Sullivan
6. Marty Wieder
7. Craig Hulse
8. Kassandra Carroll
9. Jennette Espinosa
10. Orlando Campos
11. Chris Dyser
12. Karen Dickson
13. Pamela Mundo
14. Judy McDonald

15. Dr. James Quick
16. Fred Schmidt
17. Kevin Shatley

NCTCOG Staff

1. Lucille Johnson
2. Stephanie Cecil

Others present on the call:

1. Lancine Bentley, City of Lake Dallas
2. Mary Ann Moon, Executive Director, Prosper EDC
3. Brad Burnett, City of Weatherford
4. Kristen Pegues, City of Weatherford

I hereby certify that these minutes were approved by the North Central Texas Economic Development Board on Dec 14, 2020.



Kassandra Carroll, CECD

Secretary-Treasurer, North Central Texas Economic Development District Board
Economic Development Coordinator, City of Waxahachie