



MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021, 4:00 PM
311 W. WOODARD STREET, DENISON, TEXAS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Matthew Looney, Teresa Adams, Brett Evans Jared Johnson, and Mark Kuneman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tony Kaai, CEcD – President, Loretta Rhoden – VP of Operations
William Myers, CEcD – VP of Business Development

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN MATTHEW LOONEY, CHAIRMAN AT 4:01 PM AND IT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

- I. INTRODUCTION, OATHS AND STATEMENTS OF NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD OF DIRECTOR TERESA ADAMS:** Teresa Adams, newly appointed Board Member by City Council, was sworn in by DDA Vice President of Operations, Loretta Rhoden. Chairman Looney welcomed Mrs. Adams to the DDA Board of Directors and thanked her for her continued enthusiasm to serve Denison.
- II. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES HELD APRIL 15, 2021:** Reviewed by members. Mark Kuneman motioned to approve the regular called meeting minutes as submitted by Loretta Rhoden, VP of Operations. Jared Johnson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
- III. REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2021 FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Presented by Loretta Rhoden, VP of Operations. Discussed along with Board members and staff. Jared Johnson moved to approve the financial reports as submitted by Veronica Davis, CPA. Brett Evans seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- IV. REVIEW MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT:** Presented by DDA staff members. No action needed.
- V. REVIEW AND CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS TEXOMA, AND THE SHERMAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, TO FUND THE EMPLOYMENT OF A CAREER SPECIALIST TO PROMOTE AND RECRUIT STUDENTS FOR THE ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND HEALTHCARE TRAINING PROGRAMS:** President Tony Kaai informed members Workforce Solutions Texoma plans to hire staff to serve multiple schools in the Texoma area. Workforce has strong connections in most of our schools but plans to strengthen those connections with on-site staff specialists who can provide career information to students, teachers and parents and offer multiple workshops throughout the year.

Staff on-site at the schools will develop relationships with counselors and teachers at each school. Workforce Specialists will be trained on all Texoma programs and provided contact information for community resources, both internal and external. Specialists will spend 30 hours per week at the schools

with 80% of their time in direct contact with students, teachers and/or parents. The specialists will showcase Texoma's targeted occupations list, which is based on high growth, high demand occupations, to provide information that may assist students with career training after high school. Workforce Specialists will utilize Texoma's connections in the community to have speakers visit the schools and spend time with the students.

Two colleges are closely connected to Workforce, and the Advanced Manufacturing Committee has over 30 employers who provide speakers and tours for local schools. Workforce will also use the Nepris program to connect subject matter experts to the classroom. Because Workforce has worked with the College staff who is doing some outreach to the schools, they will utilize the expertise of that staff along with our Regional Consortiums to assist the new Workforce Specialists in development and implementation of the model. The Consortiums consist of employers, economic development partners, ISD and college representatives. The Specialists will give reports to the Consortiums at their regular meetings every other month.

Discussed amongst Board members. No action taken.

VI. MONTHLY STAFF REPORT: Presented by DDA staff members. No action needed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:21 PM.



Matthew Looney, Chairman

June 24, 2021
Date Approved