

Harding County Economic & Community Development Corporation

Regular Meeting - Tuesday— September 22, 2009—6:45 pm—Roy

MINUTES

Bob Bachen called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm. Officers and members in attendance were: Bob Bachen, Bobby Cassados, Mary Libby Campbell, Sandy Ray, Carla Esquibel, and Shawn Jeffrey. Also attending were Vicki Watson, Brian Overlander, Anna Walker, and Katherine Tompkins. Bobby Casados moved to approve the minutes, second by Shawn Jeffrey. The minutes were approved. After review of the agenda, Shawn Jeffrey moved to approve the agenda. Second was by Bobby Casados and the motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented. After review of the treasurer's report, Sandy Ray moved to approve the report, second was by Mary Libby Campbell. The motion passed and the treasurer's report was approved.

Committee Reports followed.

1. Amigos Bravos – No report at this time.
2. Main Street – No report at this time.
3. Village of Roy – Sandy Ray attended the Roy Village Council meeting, representing HCECDC.

Old Business:

1. USDA Building – Sandy Ray reported that Robert Ebell is aware of the need to clean concrete from the USDA Building and adjacent Senior Citizen's Building. The problem will be taken care of.
2. Katherine Tompkins- Katherine had a very positive report stating that business is good. New hours for the restaurant are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
3. Starlight Ballroom update- Bob Bachen reported that there was a good outcome for the ballroom. At the last dance 130 people were fed. Interest and support for the ballroom continues to grow. He also reported that the Community First Loan Grant was not received.
4. Mesa Theater and Floersheim Building - Tuda Libby Crews and William Powell inspected the theater and the façade of the Mesa Theater is stable. It was also reported that the supports and fascia on the Floersheim Building are acceptable and that it will take a minimal amount of work to spruce it up. Bob Bachen reported he had heard from Jim Farrell, policy maker for the Governor's Office. He stated that funding is on hold but stimulus money is still available but nothing will happen for another month. He had asked Bob if \$300,000 would make the theater functional.

New Business:

1. Anna Walker- Anna Walker presented a business plan to the HCECDC proposing the establishment of Walker Automotive. Anna's husband, Ronald Walker, is currently the service manager for Ruidoso Ford. He is a certified mechanic. He and Anna plan on moving to Roy. Anna reported that service rate would be \$45-55/hour, with diesels being a bit higher. Anna reported that she had been in touch with Kirk Pendleton concerning the possibility of renting the Pendleton building. She read several emails from the Pendletons. Another possibility for the business site would be the former Mahoney Construction Building on the east side of Highway 39. Although no HCECDC

money was earmarked for the Walkers, support and encouragement was given by the group. Sandy Ray offered to check on availability of computers from Mosquero and Roy Schools.

2. Community First Bank – Bob Bachen was contacted indirectly by Keith Tucker, President of the bank. He wishes to be involved with the HCECDC group. The possibility of corporate members was discussed briefly. Bobby Casados reported that the county commissioners had met with Jerry Porterfield, Keith Tucker, and Trey Miller, loan officer. The idea of an advisory committee including bank officials was discussed briefly.

Public Input:

1. Mary Libby Campbell informed the group of local health fairs. Mosquero Health Fair will be on October 21, 2009, from 9-3 pm. Roy Health Fair will be on October 28, 2009, from 9-3 pm.
2. Vicki Watson stated the 501-3C boards are responsible for decisions, therefore making DNO insurance critical. The only true link between the HCECDC and the county is the funneling of HCECDC money received through county finances. It is vital that the group attain liability insurance. Shawn Jeffrey is to check on insurance premiums so that board officers and members are covered. In regard to the HUD grant, Vicki stated that the application has been submitted and board will be contacted when funds are available.
3. Solanofest- Bob Bachen reported that over 300 people attended the event. Approximately 200 people ate. Eleven teams competed in the cook off. Fifteen teams have committed to next year's competition. A suggestion was made for the DCECDC to have an information booth at next year's festivities.
4. Rough and Tough Embroider Company Grand Opening – Flyers for the upcoming grand opening and information pamphlets were handed out to members and guests. There was a question concerning the structure of the business. Vicki told the group that the anticipated outcome of "school incubated" businesses was independence from the school. Bobby Casados stated that officials in charge of the Centennial Celebration in 2012 are encouraging utilization of businesses in small communities, like Rough and Tough, in production of celebratory t-shirts and caps.
5. Sherry Romaine- Bob Bachen stated that Sherry Romaine, USDA maintenance, had a concern about her inability to shovel ice and snow from entrances of building during winter months. She will continue in her job and group will check into possibility of hiring students to do necessary shoveling.

The meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2009.

Submitted by Sandy Ray
October 18, 2009