

North Central Texas Economic Development District (NCTEDD)

Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2018

North Central Texas Council of Governments | 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

1. Welcome and Introductions

EDD Chair, Marty Wieder, welcomed all in attendance and called the August 24, 2018 meeting of the North Central Texas Economic Development District (NCTEDD) to order at 10:00 am. He asked everyone to make sure they signed in and to note their preferred method of contact (attendance attached).

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the July 13, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously, upon a motion by Shane Shepard, second by Sharon Hayes.

3. Update on District Activities

Marty Wieder asked Lucille Johnson to provide the Board with an update on District activities. Lucille briefed the Board on the following activities:

- **UT Southwestern Medical Center Innovations Project.** Lucille explained that the UT Southwestern Medical Center, located in Dallas, is applying for U. S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding through its 2018 Regional Innovation Strategies Program – i6 Challenge. She said that the EDA, through its Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, announced funding availability of \$16 million, awarding \$750,000 max to each recipient for a three year project period. She explained that this funding can be used a range of programs and services that support innovation-based, high-growth entrepreneurship and start up acceleration through services such as technology advisements, market evaluation, business planning, mentorship and access to early-stage capital. UT Southwestern plans to create a proof-of-concept center for the promotion of biopharmaceutical innovation and entrepreneurship in the region, specifically within the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA. Lucille explained that their goal is to have a workforce that is significantly specialized in therapeutics, medical devices, medical equipment, and in biopharmaceutical industry research and development. They plan to expand and retain the biopharmaceutical venture startups in this region by providing business support and mentoring services to local startups and small businesses, educating a multidisciplinary student workforce to address the needs found in developing and commercializing biomedical innovations and promoting innovation and invention in clinical practice.
- **Grow DeSoto Incubator.** Lucille explained that she visited the Grow DeSoto entrepreneurial Incubator for a tour of the facility. She met with Terry Toomey, who is the Executive Director for the project, along with DeSoto Mayor, Mayor Curtistene McCowan, and DeSoto EDC CEO, Joe Newman. Lucille discussed with Terry the possibilities of seeking EDA funds to assist with needed infrastructure in the facility.
- **Bridgeport EDC Downtown Project.** Lucille explained that she met with Leah Clark, Interim Director of the EDC in Bridgeport. There are two brothers who have a building in downtown Bridgeport. It is a historic building in which they are interested in doing a startup distillery. This would not be a retail space, but an actual facility to produce, bottle and distribute their product. Because of TABC laws, no bottled liquor would be sold retail from this location. Currently, their distilling and bottling processes are outsourced due to a lack of capital to build and open their own distillery. Their ability to get this building operational would create at least 10 full-time jobs in Bridgeport to start. They are in need of getting funding for construction infrastructure and want to know if the Public Works Economic Adjustment Assistance Program could be a possible source of funding for them.
- **City of Lancaster Possible Project.** Lucille explained that the City of Lancaster has a possible infrastructure project that could use funding through EDA. There is approximately 3,000 acres spanning through three communities – Wilmer, Hutchins, and Lancaster. There has been interest in the area by developers, particularly because of its proximity to three Interstates and the Intermodal. The area is zoned industrial; however, it lacks water, sewer and road activities.

They are interested in EDA funding to put in the needed infrastructure to attract economic development in the area.

- **City of Mesquite Possible Project.** Lucille explained that she spoke with David Witcher, Director of Economic Development with the City of Mesquite. The City has acreage along IH-20 that is ready for development but lacks sewer availability. He wanted to get some assistance with what is necessary to apply for an EDA grant.
- **City of Corsicana Project.** Lucille informed the Board that the City of Corsicana received funding from EDA for its Industrial Park infrastructure project and that EDA released a press release announcing the award.

4. Discussion of Board Vacancies and Notices to County Judges to Fill County Vacancies

Marty Weider referred the Board to the list of Board members, which showed a number of vacancies as a result of the NCTCOG Executive Board's authorization to remove the requirement that each county government pass a resolution to support and join the District. Since this is not a requirement for cities and representatives from principal economic development interests and the private sector, the NCTCOG Executive Board eliminated that requirement of counties. With that removal, as well as NCTEDD Board members leaving their positions of representation for other jobs and/or retirements, and the addition of more seats to the Board across prescribed populations, a number of vacancies are available for the NCTEDD Board. Marty encouraged existing Board members to provide recommendations for new Board members. He also shared that requests to fill vacancies have been sent to the County Judges where county vacancies exist.

5. Continued Discussion of and Selection of Task Force for CEDS Goals and Objectives Priorities

Marty Wieder continued the discussion from the last meeting (July 13, 2018) to form a task force for the CEDS goals and objectives. The decision was made to form a labor data task force to be co-chaired by Bruce Payne and Fred Schmid. Craig Hulse also agreed to serve the task force. Fred Schmidt said that he will put a list of partner resources together, and he and Bruce will work on getting information out about job fairs. Lucille Johnson told the Board that for the next meeting, she will arrange for representatives from the three Workforce Boards to speak to the Board about available and timely labor and resource data.

6. Reminder to Submit In-Kind Worksheets

Marty reminded Board members to submit their in-kind worksheets and Lucille explained their importance to the grant process.

7. New Business

No new business items were discussed.

8. Next Meeting Date

Marty informed the Board that the next scheduled NCTEDD Board meeting is November 9, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the NCTCOG offices.

9. Adjournment: Marty adjourned the Board at 11:30 am.

I hereby certify that these minutes were approved by the North Central Texas Economic Development Board on _____, 2018.

Kassandra Carroll, CECD

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

NCTEDD Board Attendance
August 24, 2018

Board Members

John Carbales, City of Lake Dallas
Orlando Campos, Town of Addison
Karen Dickson, City of Azle
Sharon Hayes, City of Weatherford
Mickey Hillock, Hillock Foods, Inc.
Craig Hulse, City of North Richland Hills
Warren Ketterman, City of Forney
Leslie Leerskov, Navarro Small Business Development Center
Lisa McMillian, Tarrant County
Bruce Payne, City of Arlington
Fred Schmidt, Tarrant County College District
Shane Shepard, City of Lancaster
Erica Sullivan, City of Denton
Michael Talley, City of Keene
Marty Wieder, City of Grand Prairie

Guests

Kristen Pegues, City of Weatherford
Imelda Speck, City of Irving
Matt Schneider, Level 5 Design Group

NCTCOG Staff

Anabel Castillo-Soto, Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas
Lucille Johnson, Executive Director's Office