

MEETING MINUTES
GULF COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
October 2, 2020

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

The following members of the Board of the Gulf Coast Economic Development District attended all or a portion, by phone or by proxy, of the October 2, 2020 board meeting:

Gary Basinger, Brazoria County Representative
Chad Burke, Regional Principal Economic Interests Representative
Dane Carlson, Galveston County Representative
Andrew Van Chau, Fort Bend Representative
Michael Ferdinand, Matagorda County Representative
Dianna Grobe, Austin County Representative
Jimmy Henry, Prairie View A&M University Representative
Guy Robert Jackson, Chambers County Representative
Wendell Null, Liberty County Representative
Joshua Owens, Wharton County Representative
Mike Rozell, Private Sector Representative
Danielle Scheiner, City of Conroe Representative
B.J. Simon, Regional Principal Economic Interests
Brandon Willis, Regional Principal Economic Interests Representative
Annie Yang, Harris County Representative
Vince Yokom, Waller County Representative

The following members of the Gulf Coast Economic Development District Board were not marked in attendance at the October 2, 2020 Board meeting:

Nicholas Finan, City of Texas City Representative
Carlos Guzman, City of Pasadena Representative
John Isom, Waller County Representative
Frank Jordan, Regional Principal Economic Interests Representative
Garrett McLeod, Galveston Representative
Marlon D. Mitchell, Regional Principal Economic Interests Representative
Charles Rogers, Colorado County Representative
Jessica Russell, Bay City Representative
Gwen Tillotson, City of Houston Representative
Mike Walker, Montgomery County Representative

CALL TO ORDER

GCEDD board president Mike Rozell called the virtual meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 10:02 a.m. via Zoom conference call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were given by the public during this time.

1. ACTION ITEM

Approval of minutes from July 10, 2020 Quarterly Meeting.

Motion: Gary Basinger

Second: Guy Robert Jackson

2. ACTION ITEM

Approval of District and Revolving Loan Fund financial reports.

Motion: Joshua Owens

Second: Guy Robert Jackson

3. ACTION ITEM

Approval of Vince Yokom to serve on the 2020-2021 Executive Committee as Treasurer. Motion: Andrew Van Chau

Second: Gary Basinger

PRESENTATIONS

Ryan E. Guerra, Founder & CEO of Skylark Wireless, explained their Massive MIMO beamforming technology, which can provide high speed internet to more users at a longer range and costs significantly less to install than fiber. He encouraged District members to reach out to info@skylarkwireless.com to connect potential internet service providers—municipalities, electric co-ops, or others—in their counties and cities to Skylark Wireless. Danielle Scheiner, Executive Director of the Conroe Economic Development Corporation, presented an update on the VGXI facility coming to the Deison Technology Park in fast-growing Conroe. Finally, Larry McManus with the Office of the Governor, Economic Development & Tourism presented an overview of Office’s economic development departments and initiatives, focusing on Economic Development Finance Programs and COVID-19 impacts and projections across industries. He also touched on the Governor’s Supply Chain Strike Force and other initial State response to the pandemic.

4. OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A schedule of Board meetings for 2021 is forthcoming
- The Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation announced a new COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Loan program for the 13-county region
- Reminder that the GCEDD releases an Economic Recovery Resources weekly newsletter each Monday that can be accessed online at gcedd.org

7. ADJOURN

The meeting is adjourned by Rozell at 11:43 am