

MINUTES

MEETING: GO Topeka Board of Directors

PLACE: Chamber Board Room

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

DATE: June 3, 2005

Present: Carl Koupal, Linda Ramirez Gonzalez, Mark Wittenburg, Sister Loretto Marie Colwell, Lucky DeFries, Mike Wilson, Dan Woodard, Ed Carmona, Kris Kitchen, Matt Sabatini, Ken Schmanke, Neil Fisher, Alonzo Harrison, Mayor Bill Bunten, Kris Robbins, John Myers

Guests: Tim Green, City of Topeka, Col. Gregg Burden, 190th ANG, Suresh Ram

Carl Koupal called the meeting to order. Ed Carmona moved, Mark Wittenburg seconding, that the minutes of the May 6, 2005 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

Mark Wittenburg presented financial statements to the board. He discussed current assets, the fund for BRAC activities, and advised that expenses are in line with the budget. He further discussed the incentive schedule and pending commitments for the year. Ed Carmona moved, Kris Robbins seconding, that the financial statements be approved. The motion carried.

After discussion about incentive offerings, Alonzo Harrison moved, Ed Carmona seconding, that language be included in the JEDO contract that incentive agreements with clients are contingent upon receipt of sales tax revenues. The motion carried.

Doug Kinsinger discussed the proposed policy for consideration of current commitments. It is anticipated that more and more organizations will approach GO Topeka for grant monies and staff would like to have guidelines in place. Current requests should absorb all of this year's budget. A committee consisting of Jeff Wiethorn, Mark Wittenburg, Andy Jetter, a Co-chair from the DBE Council plus another member to be announced will refine the process. Staff wants to avoid excessive redundancy in programs.

Tim Green, City Engineer, discussed the entryway from Topeka Boulevard to 49th Street. Preliminary cost estimates have been put together. The estimates of approximately \$1.3 million include the \$700,000 grant and with design fees would be approximately \$1.8 million. Green discussed possible use of benefit districts to assist in paying for the project. Green discussed the lay-out of the street, the replacement of the bridge over the creek, and signaling at the railroad crossing. The board discussed the approximately cost per sq. ft. of the project. Staff was instructed to work with the city engineer regarding the creation of a benefit district and inclusion in the CIP.

Col Gregg Burden provided an update on the BRAC process. Burden thanked city, county, state and Chamber officials for their assistance during the process. Burden discussed the number of communities who stand to lose their military facilities and those who will benefit. The 190th continues to position themselves for future missions. He does not expect to see many changes in the already announced closures and realignments. Current and projected projects should proceed as planned.

Doug Kinsinger introduced Suresh Ram who spoke to the concept of the Greater Topeka Angel Network. The network would consist of a collection of knowledge and financial assistance from local companies to provide support for new companies. GO Topeka will host a meeting with bankers, lawyers, CPA's etc. to have discussions on the concept.