

**Joint Economic Development Organization Board Minutes**  
**August 4, 2021**

The Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO) Board Members met at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom meeting application with the following voting Board Members present: The following members participated remotely: Deputy Mayor Michael Padilla, Councilmembers Hannah Naeger and Michael Lesser and Shawnee County Commissioner Aaron Mays, Kevin Cook and Bill Riphahn -6. Mayor Michelle De La Isla presided -1.

Nonvoting Board Members Present: Councilmembers Karen Hiller, Sylvia Ortiz, Tony Emerson and Neil Dobler participated remotely. Councilmembers Christina Valdivia-Alcala and Spencer Duncan were absent.

The meeting was conducted virtually via the Zoom meeting application. Zoom (virtual) meeting access was provided to those individuals signed up to speak to a specific item. Public comment related to an item on the agenda was submitted in writing to the Office of the City Clerk, 215 SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 166, Topeka, Kansas, or via email at [cclerk@topeka.org](mailto:cclerk@topeka.org).

**APPROVAL of Incentive Funding for Project Helix in the amount of \$119,000, was presented.**

Ashley Lehman, Business Development Manager, GO Topeka, reported the requests are for four existing companies that are looking to expand their companies. She stated the project is in the Agriculture Innovation industry looking to increase the number of employees by adding up to twenty new jobs over the next five years. She stated those positions have an average annual wage of \$45,000 plus benefits. The economic impact over ten years will be \$135 million with a return on investment of 324%. She requested approval of the incentive funding in the amount of \$119,000.

Commissioner Mays moved to approve the Incentive Funding for Project Helix in the amount of \$119,000. The motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Padilla carried unanimously on roll call vote. (7-0-0)

**APPROVAL of Incentive Funding for Project Julia in the amount of \$98,900, was presented.**

Ashley Lehman, Business Development Manager, GO Topeka, reported the request is from a manufacturing company that is looking to purchase additional equipment to increase production. Their capital investment will be \$700,000 and will add five new positions with an annual average wage of \$59,000 plus benefits. She stated the economic impact over ten years is \$61 million with a return on investment of 142%. She requested approval of the incentive funding in the amount of \$98,900.

Councilmember Naeger moved to approve the Incentive Funding for Project Julia in the amount of \$98,900. The motion seconded by Commissioner Riphahn carried unanimously on roll call vote. (7-0-0)

**APPROVAL of Incentive Funding for Project Platinum in the amount of \$60,000, was presented.**

Ashley Lehman, Business Development Manager, GO Topeka, reported the request is for a manufacturing company and would amend a previously approved project. The capital investment total will be \$15 million with the total economic impact over ten years of \$12.5 million and a return on investment of 172%. She requested approval of the incentive funding in the amount of \$60,000.

Deputy Mayor Padilla moved to approve the Incentive Funding for Project Platinum in the amount of \$60,000. The motion seconded by Commissioner Cook carried unanimously on roll call vote. (7-0-0)

**APPROVAL of Incentive Funding for Project Warrior in the amount of \$214,000, was presented.**

Ashley Lehman, Business Development Manager, GO Topeka, reported the request is for a manufacturing company looking to purchase equipment. The capital investment will be \$3.8 million and will add thirty-five new positions with an average annual wage of \$43,500 plus benefits. She stated the economic impact over ten years will be \$264 million with a return on investment of 249%. She requested approval of the incentive funding in the amount of \$214,000.

Commissioner Cook moved to approve the Incentive Funding for Project Warrior in the amount of \$214,000. The motion seconded by Councilmember Naeger carried unanimously on roll call vote. (7-0-0)

No further business appearing the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.