



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICE COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
RICE, TEXAS**

**December 16, 2024
6:00 PM
Rice City Hall – Business Hub
305 N. Dallas Street
Rice, TX 75155**

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call**
 - a. Brandi Solomon - present
 - b. Rolando Chapa - present
 - c. James Franks – present (6:14pm arrival)
 - d. Tonya Roberts - absent
 - e. Donna Gipson – present
 - f. Sarah Farley - present
 - g. Archa Cassel - present

- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Texas Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Prayer**
- 5. Public Forum**

6. Agenda Items

- a. Discuss opening for new Board member
 - Garry Teague letter of resignation/review member position & remainder term. - Prospective new member is Tiffanie Zwinge, she is currently on the planning and zoning committee in Rice. Previously held a chair in Vermont for planning and zoning. She has previous event planning experience, and voiced a concern about Rice not getting too big too fast. New member would take Garry's year (even or odd) for reelection.
 - Tiffany Zwinge's was appointed as EDC Board Member as of 01/16/2025

- b. Discuss Downtown Development Project
 - Review progress, site map, etc. - Archa is getting bids from electricians, the flag pole is in the sleeve but not complete. We are waiting for the pole door for the rope. City council approved our plan for phase 1. We will need to schedule a public hearing to notify the citizens of Rice of our intended plan. We are seeking input for the existing pole, whether or not it should be moved onto our property and a new meter installed. We need to be in contact with the planning and zoning board regarding our proposed agreement with Mr. Estrada regarding planting greenery or other collaborations for the border of our properties. Opinions also needed on bench and arch styles, tree type, etc details.

- c. Discuss 4/26 Promotional Event Updates
 - Archa will review event details - theme, ideas, etc. - Discover Rice, a passport available a month before advertising the current restaurants in Rice. Visitors will be tasked to obtain a stamp from each of the restaurants, and once completed they will receive a prize. We will also have space in the gym for other businesses to set up. The EDC will have a booth set up for educational material for local businesses.

- d. Discuss and deliberate what to do with existing park lights
 - Sell, auction, donate, dispose, etc. - We have decided to use a different style of light. James made a motion to auction the old lights at C & L. Rolando Seconded the Motion. Ayes - Sarah, Donna, Brandi. - Motion Passed

- e. Discuss and Deliberate November Financial Statement
 - Flag pole installation has been updated in the bank statement. James made a motion to accept. Donna seconded. Ayes - Rolando, Sarah, Brandi - Motion Passed

- f. Discuss and Deliberate 11/08/24 Meeting Minutes
 - See attachment Donna made a motion to accept. James made a motion. Ayes - Rolando, Sarah, Brandi - Motion Passed

7. Adjourn

James made a motion to adjourn. Donna seconded. Ayes - Rolando, Sarah, Brandi.

Motion Passed

Attest: _____ Date: _____
Secretary

Attest: _____ Date: _____
Administrator