

Meeting Agenda
Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation
Monday, May 2, 2022

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 2, 2022 at the Aquarium Education Center, 706 Navigation Circle, Rockport TX 78382. This meeting will also be held by video conference via the ZOOM app and streamed on YouTube for viewing. To watch the meeting on YouTube, visit: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcOMOSkUX7xqRzCpt8V663A/live> Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting in person and who may need assistance should contact the County Judge's office at 361-790-0100 two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The following subjects will be discussed and acted upon:

I. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

II. Citizens To Be Heard

At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the Agenda. To address the Directors or make an inquiry, please request a Public Participation Form from the Secretary and return it before the meeting. Citizens who wish to speak on a matter included in this Agenda will be invited to speak when that particular matter is being deliberated by the LGC. Please note, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Directors may not deliberate or take action on any item which has not been posted on the Agenda. Deliberation of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting.

III. Consent Agenda

1. Discussion and acceptance of the January 31, 2022 meeting minutes.

IV. Regular Agenda

2. Discuss, deliberate and take action on the ACPEDC 2022 1st Quarter Report.
3. Discuss, deliberate and take the following possible actions concerning the future utilization of the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation (LGC) in view of the adoption of economic development policies by both Aransas County and the City of Rockport:
 - A. Terminate the Economic Development Services Agreement with the Aransas County Economic Development Corporation (the "EDC") effective as of December 31, 2022, so that the EDC may contract with the participating entities directly.
 - B. Maintain the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation on an ongoing basis with annual meetings as necessary to keep the LGC available for special projects that can utilize its statutory powers.

4. Discuss, deliberate and appoint an Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation Director to be responsible for recording and distribution of the minutes of the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation Board of Directors' meetings.
5. Discuss and deliberate the need for participating governmental entities to invoice the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation for administrative services.
6. Discuss and deliberate entering into negotiations with the Aransas County Independent School District (ACISD) to join the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation as a participating governmental entity.
7. Discuss and deliberate the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation's current contract for economic development services with the Aransas County Partnership Economic Development Corporation

V. Reports And Announcements from Directors: No Action Will Be Taken

VI. Adjournment

I, the undersigned, City Secretary, of the City of Rockport, Texas, do hereby certify that the Notice of the above named Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation, is a true and correct copy of said Notice, and that I posted a true and correct copy of said Notice on the bulletin board at the Rockport Service Center, 2751 State Highway 35 Bypass, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas on Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., and said Notice remained so posted continuously for at least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the schedule time of said Meeting.

 by 

Teresa Valdez, City Secretary

Tel: 361-729-2213 Fax: 361-790-5966

Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors held at
the Aransas County Courthouse on Monday, January 31, 2022, at 11:00 am**

I. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Judge Mills, Mayor Rios, Mayor Cole, and newly appointed Director Jeff Hutt, representing the Aransas County Navigation District, were present and the meeting was called to order with a quorum at 11:00am. Also present were Michael Meek, Jennifer O'Steen, Collin Jackson, Jatin Bhakta, Commissioner Pat Rousseau, Larry Harris, Michaela Alston, Bron Rorex, Skip Carrier, and Koleen Quattlebaum. Some additional individuals watched the meeting via Zoom.

II. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No citizens spoke during this item.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The minutes of the Oct. 1, 2021 meeting were considered. Rios made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Cole. Motion passed 4-0.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discuss and appoint a LGC Board Member to fill current Secretary Vacancy.

Discussion was held on the election of the position of Secretary of the LGC. Hutt said he did not want to be Secretary or Treasurer but would consider Vice Chairman. Cole noted that the agenda item posted was only to elect a Secretary and she nominated Rios to serve. Rios seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Presentation of latest LGC Treasurer's Report.

Rios, LGC Treasurer, explained the Treasurer's Report and reviewed the contributions from the four governmental entities as well as the funds from the Chamber Foundation. Rios noted that the Town of Fulton had submitted their funds and that the City of Rockport was in the process of doing the same. Mills noted that Aransas County would cut their check today. Hutt stated he would check with the Navigation District on the status of its payment after Rios stated he hadn't received it. Commissioner Rousseau inquired about the line item for LGC Contributions of \$15,000. Mills explained that this was from the Chamber

Foundation and that the Chamber prefers to give its contribution to the LGC which is then transferred to the EDC. Hutt asked how this is allowed. Meek and Mills explained that the Chamber Foundation, as a 501 (c) 3 prefers to transfer the funds to the LGC instead of directly to the EDC which is 501 (c)(6). O'Steen stated that the LGC's bylaws allow it to contract with 501 (c)(6) organizations to provide services and that is how the LGC is able to pay the funds to the EDC. Hutt stated he has not seen this professional services agreement (the Consulting Agreement between the LGC and the EDC) and O'Steen offered to provide that to him. She then handed him her copy. Hutt stated the Navigation District wants its contribution restricted to expenditures other than going to the EDC. O'Steen stated that only the question of whether to pay the EDC was on the agenda and that the Board should be careful to stay on topic. Hutt then stated that he was trying to explain why he didn't support paying the EDC's invoice. Hutt asked how the amounts of the contributions were set. O'Steen explained that the contributions by the various entities were established in the Interlocal Agreement that predates the formation of the LGC. Rios moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Presentation of ACPEDC 2021 4th Quarter Report.

Meek, Interim President of the EDC, then presented the 4th quarter EDC Activities Report. He presented a PowerPoint presentation with slides that included information on the recent survey results with area major businesses, the status of the workforce development center, drafted and approved incentive policies, the strategy for 2022-25, and targeted business sectors that are contained in the strategy and incentive policies. Hutt asked about the workforce center and how and why Del Mar was chosen as the provider of services for this workforce center. He said that transfer credits from Del Mar are not as easily accepted as credits from other colleges. He said that his son earned 48 hours of credits while he was in high school and that they are having trouble getting those credits recognized. O'Steen noted that his comments about credits from Del Mar not being accepted by all colleges would be best directed to the Aransas County Independent School District Board. O'Steen mentioned that the Lease for the Workforce Development Center will be between the County and Del Mar and not with the LGC. Hutt also inquired about workforce housing and how it is defined. O'Steen shared what it means in the Economic Development Policy that the County recently adopted which is a development with more than 50 units that is available for rent below market value. Hutt stated he was not in favor of apartments being included in any incentives.

4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the transfer of the 2022 LGC dues to the ACPEDC.

The LGC discussed the action agenda item on transferring LGC funds to the Aransas County Partnership Economic Development Corporation (ACPEDC) to pay the invoice received for consulting services. Hutt moved to not approve. There was no second to the motion and the motion died.

Rios moved to approve with Cole seconding the motion. Under discussion of the motion, Hutt inquired about legal services for the LGC. He stated that if the county was supplying legal services to this corporation (LGC) as an in kind contribution then it needs to be accounted for. O'Steen stated that she works for the County but also as a private attorney. O'Steen said that she is providing services to the LGC today "pro bono." She noted that should there be a need to have legal advice in the future, the LGC could engage counsel but that with the limited purposes of the LGC, it would be rare. The question was called and the vote was 3-1 in favor (Hutt opposed).

5. Discuss and set the LGC quarterly meeting dates and times for 2022.

Dates for future quarterly meetings was discussed. Mills recommended April 26, July 26, and Oct. 28. The time would be 11:00 am. Hutt stated that the next meeting should be in May or June to allow entities to pass their budgets. Hutt also wants the meetings to be after business hours because he says it is difficult for people to attend during the day. Other Board members present noted the conflicts with scheduling meetings in the evening since the City of Rockport and Town of Fulton meet in the evening hours. Cole noted that the meetings are on Zoom in response to the comment about people not being able to attend. Hutt moved to set the next meeting for April 26 at 11am and to later revisit the start times of the July and October meetings. There was no second and the motion died. Cole moved to approve the meeting schedule as proposed with each of the meetings beginning at 11:00 am. The Motion was seconded by Rios. Motion passed 3-1 (Hutt opposed).

6. Discuss, approve or disapprove marking a recommendation that all participating entities' appointed directors to the EDC be placed on the EDC Executive Committee Board.

The Board discussed the next item on the agenda regarding having all LGC entities having a seat on the EDC Executive Committee. Hutt began by explaining that the representative to the EDC from the Navigation District was having trouble getting information. Hutt said that the representative was told that he would need to send in an Open Records Request. Hutt said that the representatives from

governmental entities should have access to all of the information and that it would be better if each entity had someone on the Executive Committee. O'Steen stated the LGC does not have the authority to ask the EDC to put certain people on the Executive Committee and that only the EDC as a separate corporation can choose how to elect their officers. It was noted by Bhakta and Meek that the EDC has representatives of each entity on the EDC Board. Bhakta mentioned that the Navigation District representative is Keith Barrett and that Mr. Barrett does not attend meetings. Hutt made a motion to recommend that all LGC entities have directors on the EDC Executive Committee. O'Steen stated that the LGC cannot make this request as each of the entities' governing bodies would need to consider whether it wants to make the request since the representatives are chosen by the entities and not the LGC. No second was received.

7. Discuss, approve or disapprove issuing a RFP for legal services to represent the LGC.

The next item discussed was whether the LGC should issue a RFP for legal services to represent the LGC. Hutt asked to have an agreement drawn up with O'Steen. O'Steen stated that while she was providing this service today, she may not in the future. Rios inquired why the LGC would need legal counsel. Hutt answered that the LGC should have someone there when legal questions arise. O'Steen responded that if a need arises, the LGC can seek legal advice at that point but that it doesn't make sense to keep an attorney on retainer given the limited scope of the organization's business. Hutt asked if the LGC essentially acts as a pass through for funding to the EDC. Meek, Mills, and Rios answered in the affirmative.

V. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM DIRECTORS

There were none reported.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Cole moved and Rios seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0. Mills adjourned the meeting at 11:43am.

The foregoing minutes of the LGC Meeting held on January 31, 2022, were APPROVED by the LGC Board on THIS 26TH DAY OF APRIL, 2022

**C.H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., Chairman
Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation**