

**HARRIS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
CALLED SESSION**

February 21, 2022  
6:00 PM

Members Present: Craig Greenhaw, Becky Langston, Charles Sweat, Chris Butzon, Harry Boyd, Mark Smith, Mike Stewart. Member Absent: vacant position. Staff Present: Nancy McMichael, Recording Secretary.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Greenhaw called the meeting to order and said the purpose of the Called Session was for the discussion of economic development funding.
  
2. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING.** Chairman Greenhaw asked Mr. Sweat to discuss the need for funding for economic development. Mr. Sweat distributed a document he had prepared regarding economic development in Harris County and reviewed same to include the benefits of economic development, the supporting elements, traditional funding sources, opportunities, responsibility, an excerpt from the Comprehensive Plan, expense and results of neighboring cities/counties, average pay for an economic development professional, the acreage remaining in the NW Harris Business Park and in the Hamilton Business Park, retail spending in and out of the County, reasons to hire a full time Economic Development Director, funding request, and proposed job description. Discussion included that the position could possibly be made part of the County's personnel plan but report to the Development Authority (much like the two County positions in the District Attorney's office report to the District Attorney); that the person hired would have an office, at least for the first year, at no cost, such as in the First Peoples Bank location in Pine Mountain (per Mr. Sweat); that the job description for the position, if approved by the County, would have to be reviewed by CVIOG as to the grade classification; that if approved, the hiring process would be through the County with the Development Authority reviewing applications, interviewing, and choosing the individual; and that it is understood the actual hiring process may take a while. Following discussion, the motion to request the Board of Commissioners add the position of Economic Development Director to the County's personnel plan and to fund \$125,000 (to include salary, benefits, marketing and miscellaneous expenses) for the position and to authorize Mr. Sweat to present the proposal to the Board of Commissioners. (Document can be found in "Miscellaneous Documents" DA MD #22-01.)
  
3. **ADJOURNMENT.** The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Langston, seconded by Mr. Sweat, and passed unanimously.

Prepared by:

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Craig Greenhaw, Chairman

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Nancy McMichael, Recording Secretary