THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF WESLACO
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 18, 2026

On this, eighteenth (18th) day of March 2026 at 5:00 P.M., the Economic Development Corporation of Weslaco convened its regular meeting at The Business Visitor & Event Center Room A & B located at 275 South Kansas Ave., Weslaco, Texas, for discussion and taking possible action on the following items.

The following members were present:
Sandra Charlton
Kris Garcia
Jerry Gonzalez
Hector Solis
Joe Olivarez – Arrived at 5:09 P.M.
Jeff Everitt

Also present were:
Steven Valdez – EDCW Executive Director
Jorge Lozano – EDCW Assistant Executive Director
Maria Cisneros – EDCW Commercial Real Estate & Retail Recruitment Manager
Michelle Smith – EDCW Community Development and Marketing Manager
Jaqueline Hernandez – Finance and Administrative Coordinator
Gene Vaughn – EDCW Attorney
Marisela De Leon – RGV Lead, Executive Director

At 5:00 P.M., Ms. Charlton called the Board Meeting to order.

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call.
A quorum was formed with five Board Members present.

B. Board Members' declaration of potential conflicts of interest as to any agenda items.
There were no declarations of potential conflicts of interest as to any agenda items.

II. Public Comments

This portion of the meeting is not intended to be an extended discussion or a debate and is limited to three (3) minutes for each presenter. Presenters may address the Board regarding any item on the agenda that will be discussed by the Board during the open portion of the meeting. Board members do not reply; they listen.
There were no public comments.

III. Presentation

A. RGV Lead – Marisela De Leon, Interim Executive Director.
No action.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 21, 2026.

B. Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of March 6, 2026.

C. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the request for approval of excuse absences for the following Board Members in accordance with the City of Weslaco Ordinance No. 2022-19, Sec. 8-100.

- Mr. Kris Garcia was absent from the Regular Board Meeting of January 21, 2026, and Mr. Hector Solis was absent from the Special Board Meeting of March 6, 2026.

Mr. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Mr. Solis seconds the motion.

Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

V. New Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the Region One Teacher Certification Grant.
Mr. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the grant for Region One Teacher Certification as recommended.
Mr. Garcia seconds the motion.

Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

B. Discussion and Possible Action regarding a two-year RGV Lead Sponsorship to benefit Weslaco ISD students.
Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve a two-year sponsorship to benefit the students of Weslaco ISD.
Mr. Solis seconds the motion.

Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action regarding contract with CodeSM to extend until the end of the fiscal year ending in September 2026.

Mr. Solis made a motion to approve the contract with CodeSM to extend until the end of the fiscal year ending in September 2026.
Mr. Everitt seconds the motion.

Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

B. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the UTRGV Kauffman Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Mr. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the UTRGV Kauffman Program for the 2025 – 2026 fiscal year, contingent upon a $250.00 participant payment, which will be refunded upon successful completion of the program.
Mr. Solis seconds the motion.

Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

C. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the renewal of the legal services contract with Jones, Galligan, Key & Lozano.

Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the renewal of the legal service contract with Jones, Galligan, Key & Lozano for three (3) years, and with the rate increase.
Mr. Gonzalez seconds the motion.

Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.

Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

D. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Awarded Job Incentive Agreements.
Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the recommendation regarding the awarded job incentive agreements.
Mr. Solis seconds the motion.

Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

VII. Reports

A. Monthly Financial Reports for January & February 2026 – Jacqueline Hernandez.
Ms. Jacqueline Hernandez presented the reports for January & February 2026.

No action.

B. Executive Director's Report – Steven M. Valdez.
Mr. Steven Valdez highlighted a few items: EDC staff will be conducting interviews for a new position of Admin./Social Media; Continue working on an information center for RFI's.

No action.

C. Staff Goal Tracking Report – Jorge Lozano.
Mr. Jorge Lozano made a brief presentation to the Board regarding staff goal tracking.

No action.

D. Alfresco Weslaco Report – Michelle Smith.
Mrs. Michelle Smith presented a report to the Board regarding Alfresco's season.

No action.

VIII. Closed Session

At 6:55 P.M., Ms. Charlton announced that the EDCW Board will move out of Open Session and into Closed Session as posted.

At 7:51 P.M., Ms. Charlton announced that the EDCW Board will move out of Closed Session and back into Open Session.

IX. Action in Closed Session

A. Deliberation and Possible action regarding economic development matters (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code Section 551.087), including, but not limited to the following:

1. Summary of Leads.
   - Project Nexus
   - Project Heritage
   - Project Sweet Onion

   No action.

2. Project Pike Refresh – Façade Grant Request.
   Mr. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the façade grant as discussed under Closed Session.
   Mr. Everitt seconds the motion.

   Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
   Mr. Everitt votes in favor.
   Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
   Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
   Mr. Solis votes in favor.
   Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.

   Motion passes with six votes.

B. Deliberation and Possible action regarding real property matters (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code Section 551.072).
Mr. Garcia made a motion to ratify the signed contract for Project Chill Factor, ratifying the actions the Executive Director assigns and signs the contract.
Mr. Solis seconds the motion.

Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

C. Deliberation & Possible action regarding EDCW employment matters. (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code Section 551.074 and 551.071).

1. EDCW employee pay adjustments.
No action.

2. Executive Director
Mr. Solis made a motion to approve the contract as discussed under Closed Session.
Mr. Olivarez seconds the motion.

Mr. Solis votes in favor.
Mr. Olivarez votes in favor.
Ms. Charlton votes in favor.
Mr. Garcia votes in favor.
Mr. Gonzalez votes in favor.
Mr. Everitt votes in favor.

Motion passes with six votes.

D. Consultation with Attorney, including any possible action (as permitted under Tex. Gov't Code Section 551.071).
No action.

X. Adjournment

With no other business before the Board, at 7:53 P.M., the EDCW Regular Board Meeting of March 18, 2026, was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Maria Cisneros – Recorder

The minutes were approved at the Regular Board Meeting of April 15, 2026.

Hector Solis - Secretary