



**MINUTES OF A JOINT SPECIAL MEETING
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION AND
WESLACO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MARCH 13, 2025**

On Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Joint Special Meeting with Weslaco Economic Development Corporation at City Hall in the Legislative Chamber, located at 255 South Kansas Avenue with the following member's present:

PRESENT:	Mayor	Adrian Gonzalez
	Commissioner	Adrian Farias
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Pete Garcia, Jr.
	Commissioner	JP Rodriguez
	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
ABSENT:	Mayor Pro Tem	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
STAFF PRESENT:	Martin Garza	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary
	Eric Flores	Interim City Attorney

Also present: Xavier Salinas, Asst. City Manager, Aida Vega, Deputy City Secretary, Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, Joe Pedraza, Asst. Planning and Code Enforcement Director, Albert Aldana, City Engineer, David Arce, Public Works Director, Robert Lopez, Police Chief, Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, Eddie Gil Information Technology, Lily Alvarez, Airport Director and other staff members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Gonzalez called the special meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Friday, March 7, 2025.

B. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, called the roll noting the absence of Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez Jr. and Commissioner Pedraza and quorum present.

Weslaco Economic Development Corporation called roll with a quorum present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Pedraza in attendance.

A. Discussion and presentation on current and upcoming projects and strategic infrastructure initiatives. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Martin Garza, City Manager, stated important mechanisms for projects are collaborations, partnerships, priorities and the most important phase of a project is securing the funds; staff and WEDC have worked on providing information a developer is looking for who wants to invest in Weslaco; stated infrastructure and transportation need to be addressed in order to continue the growth and these type of projects are priorities; work together to leverage funds that can come from the state/federal agencies and the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) but these funds/grants will require a local match; overviewed projects and cost for Mile 10 North that is a joint effort with Hidalgo County, Weslaco Hike and Bike Trail joint effort with Hidalgo County Precinct 1, Weslaco Loop Transportation Study joint effort with RGV MPO and SH 495 extension; stated there were grant funding opportunities with Safe Streets and Roads grant, Hurricane Beryl (FEMA), Severe Storms (FEMA), Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance. the Texas A&M Forest Service and FEMA grants related to major disasters and severe storms; infrastructure projects included a ground water feasibility study to determine how to capture water and determine available water and capacity. Thanked WEDC for their commitment in bringing in businesses and requested to continue working together and strategize to find a solution for the capacity at the plants, aging infrastructure and determine new infrastructure.

Thanked Jordan Sinclair from L&G Engineers, for being in attendance who was familiar with some of the projects.

B. Discussion and presentation on past, present and future goals and objectives of the Weslaco Economic Development Corporation. (Staffed by EDC Executive Director.)

Steve Valdez, Executive Director Weslaco Economic Development Corporation, thanked the commission and welcomed his Board Members to the joint meeting; went over WEDC mission statement; went over the past, present and future of WEDC; past years staff has compiled data driven information for developers, such as residential permits to show growth, show case new retail business and industrial, marketing material to name a few; presented charts for sales tax growth from 2019-2024, residential market value increased 81%, a 22% increase in commercial and industrial since 2020; went over jobs created, incentives awarded and capital investments to the city; present endeavors are staff accountability, provide swift turnaround of information, maintain relationships, improve business retention expansion program, continue skill development programs, promote regionalism by doing a “tenant driven” trade show. Sandra Charlton, EDC Board President, stated moving forward a 5-year plan is needed, improve recruitment efforts, more business corridors, have more industrialized property and consider Military Highway properties.

Mayor Gonzalez stated Weslaco is the place to be and the vision of the Mayor and Commission is to focus and prioritize issues and work together as a team to get projects accomplished; stated

projects requires funding and by working as a team they can grow the City in the right direction in building a legacy for future generations; thanked the WEDC Board members for being involved in making decisions that will have long lasting impact for Weslaco.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Lopez seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to convene the regular meeting into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

At 7:36 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez stated the City Commission had completed its Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting as open to the public.

V. POSSIBLE ACTION ON WHAT IS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Economic Development – Discussions regarding economic development project status for Project Sweet Onion; Project Blue Diamond; Project Ground Pounder; Project Chill Factor; Project 5 Guys; Project Obed as authorized by Texas Government Code § 551.087.

No action,

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to adjourn the special meeting of March 13, 2025 at 7:36 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**