

**SPECIAL MEETING
CUERO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020 5:00 PM**

The Cuero Development Corporation Board of Directors met Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. at the City of Cuero Council Chambers, 212 E. Main Street, Cuero, TX 77954.

PRESENT: Richard Weber, Randy Jochim, Mayor Sara Post Meyer, Tyler McClellan, Greg Freeman, David Scott, Chris Crain, Executive Director, Bobby Seiferman, and Administrative Assistant, Samantha Bayfus.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Richard Weber called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

II. CITIZENS INPUT

None

III. BUSINESS

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A NEW CDC GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Seiferman presented the COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant to the Board. As a result of a local business owner seeking assistance from the CDC, this grant application was created. The Small Business Assistance Grant would potentially provide up to \$6,000 to reimburse business owners for 75% of their utility bills from the months of April 2019 – September 2019. Mr. Seiferman noted that the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Grant was well received and six applicants were on the agenda for consideration.

Mr. Seiferman questioned if the Board was willing to keep the grant program available until June 30th or if they wanted to shorten the deadline being that the Small Business Administration (SBA) loan and grant funds had both been depleted. The original June 30, 2020 deadline of the COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant was chosen because that was the deadline for all of the SBA programs. The Board suggested that the COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant Program be available until June 30th or until the funds are depleted. Mr. Seiferman also noted that instead of having an additional budget amendment, the two programs would split the approved \$100,000 and if needed, an additional budget amendment would be proposed.

Mr. Scott expressed his concerns that 75% of the utility expenses would not be enough to keep the local businesses afloat.

Mr. Scott questioned if City employees would be able to apply for the grant programs. Mr. Seiferman noted that there were not any stipulations for this program being that the grants were created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Meyer questioned how the CDC staff is determining if a business is collecting sales tax, as required on both COVID-19 grant applications. Mr. Seiferman noted that Samantha has called the Comptroller's Office and received reports on an active standing on each business. Mayor suggested adding a check box next to the sales tax information, indicating that the applicant follows the guidelines provided. Mayor Meyer also suggested adding a check box next to "In good standing with the City of Cuero" and that the CDC staff verify with City Secretary, Jennifer Zufelt.

It was suggested that the fourth bullet stating "Experienced or projected to experience a decline in employment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic" be removed from both grant applications.

Mr. Freeman questioned if the Board should consider applicants that have more than 25 employees. The Board decided that it was in their best interest to remove the minimum number of employees allowed to give each local business an opportunity to apply for either COVID-19 assistance grant.

MOTION MADE BY GREG FREEMAN, SECONDED BY RANDY JOCHIM, TO APPROVE THE CDC'S COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE CHANGES AS RECOMMENDED.
AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION CARRIED

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CRAFTY CHICS

Mr. Scott expressed his concerns with the small amount of sales tax generated by Crafty Chics.

Mr. Crain questioned the hours of operation for Crafty Chics. Mr. McClellan stated that they are open on Thursday evenings, ½ day of Friday, and on Saturdays.

Mayor Meyer mentioned that Crafty Chics sales supplies for crafts and scrapbooking so sales tax is being generated.

MOTION MADE BY TYLER MCCLELLAN, SECONDED BY GREG FREEMAN, TO APPROVE THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSITANCE PROGRAM FOR CRAFTY CHICS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250.00 FOR A SIX MONTH TOTAL OF \$1,500.00 AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION CARRIED

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR VINTAGE ON MAIN

MOTION MADE BY TYLER MCCLELLAN, SECONDED BY CHRIS CRAIN, TO APPROVE THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR VINTAGE ON MAIN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450.00 FOR A SIX MONTH TOTAL OF \$2,700.00 AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION CARRIED

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE HARDWOOD

Mr. Crain questioned the type of business The Hardwood is and what goods/services they offer. Mr. Weber mentioned that The Hardwood is a bar and Mr. Freeman noted that they offer food services in addition to their bar services.

Mayor Meyer questioned the amount of reimbursement that The Hardwood is seeking. The grant states that the rent amount with utilities included is \$1,500 with \$500 being utility usage and is seeking \$750 for ten months. The Board stated that the application needed to be amended and resubmitted for consideration.

THE BOARD TABLED THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE HARDWOOD.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR RYAN'S ON MAIN

In further reviewing the Ryan's on Main application, the Board suggested that Ryan's on Main's application required an amendment to the application to not include the utilities.

THE BOARD TABLED THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR RYAN'S ON MAIN.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A SPECIAL STITCH

MOTION MADE BY DAVID SCOTT, SECONDED BY RANDY JOCHIM, TO APPROVE THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A SPECIAL STITCH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750 FOR A SIX MONTH TOTAL OF \$4,500. AYES: 6 NAYES: 0 GREG FREEMAN RECUSED HIMSELF

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FUL-0-PEP RANCH CENTER

Mr. Seiferman noted that Ful-O-Pep Ranch Center has opted to remove their application for consideration for the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program as they will be applying for the COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant.

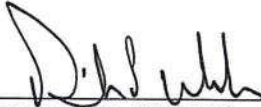
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AN APPLICATION FOR CDC'S COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE SPINNING TOP

Mr. Crain questioned the type of business The Spinning Top is. Mr. McClellan stated that The Spinning Top does refabricating and repurposing on vintage furniture.

MOTION MADE BY CHRIS CRAIN, SECONDED BY TYLER MCCLELLAN, TO APPROVE THE COVID-19 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE SPINNING TOP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$262.50 FOR A SIX MONTH TOTAL OF \$1575.00. AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION CARRIED


IV. ADJOURN

MOTION MADE BY TYLER MCCLELLAN, SECONDED BY RANDY JOCHIM, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AT 5:48 P.M. AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION CARRIED



RICHARD WEBER
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:



DAVID SCOTT
SECRETARY/TREASURER