



**CITY OF DALLAS**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Via RingCentral**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2020 – 12:00 p.m.**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

**MINUTES - DRAFT**

Members Present: Chair Gerad Graveline, Mayor Brian Dalton, Kelly Gabliks, Glen Miller, Craig Pope, Barb Powers, Sarah Owre, Ken Jacroux, and Jake Stamos

Members Absent: Terry Crawford, Rita Grady, Nancie Rogers, Paul Trahan, Jackie Lawson, Jason Saunders

Others Present: Jim Williams

Staff present: City Manager Brian Latta, Economic Development Director AJ Foscoli, and Recording Secretary Margie Pearce.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Gerard Graveline called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the January 16, 2020 Economic Development Commission meeting were accepted as presented.

**UPDATES:** –Mr. Foscoli updated the commission on Mint Valley Paper and the Opportunity Zone. He has had some communication with Mint Valley Paper but no movement yet. The Opportunity Zone has one land owner looking for a project and funding.

**COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL VACANCIES REPORT:** Mr. Foscoli presented a printout of the vacant properties in the city. He stated he had submitted the Mill Site property for a project sent to B & O railroad looking for rail transportation. There was a discussion about how the businesses were doing in Dallas; Blue Garden turned into an online auction house dealing with antique sports equipment, Advanced Auto Parts closed, Squirrels Taxi was believed to be closing, but that was not confirmed

**POLK COUNTY REOPENING PLAN:** County Commissioner Craig Pope gave an overview of the plan. He said to keep asking Dallas businesses what money they need. Mr Brian Latta told the commission the city was working with Polk Community Development Corporation on a CBDG Block grant which will be used for low interest loans to businesses.

**RESTRUCTURING EDC:** The Public Admin Committee reviewed all standing Committees and Commissions. They recommended that The Economic Development Commission be slimmed down to seven (7) members being recommended by the Mayor and approved by the Council. All terms would be four (4) year staggered. The standing EDC members will need to reapply if they are interested in being considered for a new position.

36 **ROUND TABLE:**

37 Mr. Jim Williams, from Senator Boquist's office, talked about the state's financial forecast and urged  
38 members to ask for state monetary assistance.

39

40 Mr. Glen Miller from CCC Polk Center told the Commission summer classes would be remote and it was  
41 too soon to make the call for fall classes. He stated that enrollment was down 22%.

42

43 Mr. AJ Foscoli took the last few minutes of the meeting to thank the commissioners for their  
44 commitment to Dallas and with heavy heart would be leaving the City of Dallas family at the end of June.

45

46 The meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm.