

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 29TH DAY of APRIL, 2022, Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, met at a special meeting with the following present:

KP GEORGE	COUNTY JUDGE
VINCENT MORALES	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
GRADY PRESTAGE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
ANDY MEYERS	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
LAURA RICHARD	COUNTY CLERK

Commissioner Ken DeMerchant absent.
When the following were heard and the following orders were passed:

- 1. **Call to Order.**

Call to Order by Judge KP George at 1:00 p.m.
- 2. **Workshop to receive presentation regarding Fort Bend County Economic Development Department.**

Amy Ressler, Fort Bend County Extension Director introduced Dr. Rebekka Dudensing, Associate Vice President for Economic Development & Community Impact and Dr. Peter McGuill, Director, V.G. Young Institute of County Government. The objective of the workshop was to facilitate a discussion to help Commissioners Court determine the best course of action and find common ground to determine if an Economic Development Department is needed within the County.
- 3. **Receive Public Comments.**

There were 7 public comments.

1. Jeff Willey, 2415 Hodges Bird Circle, Sugar Land, TX, President & CEO of Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council is against the County developing an Economic Development Department. Mr. Willey stated one outcome from this workshop should be the commitment by the County to engage in an independent third party consultant to conduct the countywide strategic plan. The plan should engage stakeholders within the County staff and key external stakeholders to build a robust plan.

Item 3 continued - Workshop:

2. Rachelle Kanak, 3939 West Alabama, Houston, Executive Vice President of Marketing and Operations of Fort Bend EDC, is against the County developing an Economic Development Department. Ms. Kanak read a letter from the Executive Board on behalf of the organization, which reinforces the belief and appreciation of the strong working relationship with the County over the years.

3. Mike Rozell, 8518 Chipping Rock Drive, Sugar Land, is against Item 2, the development of an Economic Development Department. Mr. Rozell read a few comments that were mentioned by the court, during the workshop.

4. Kristin Weiss, 2914 Lamar, Houston, President & CEO of the Central Fort Bend Chamber, is against the Fort Bend County Economic Development Department. Ms. Weiss explained the value of the EDC working collaboratively with the County.

5. Mayor Cecil Willis, Mayor of Stafford, TX, spoke on Item 2. Mayor commented and asked why the County needs this department, what is wrong with the current plan of the CDC and stated it is important to collectively work together.

6. Andrew Van Chou, 28622 Monarch Cliffs Drive, Fulshear, TX is for Item 2. Mr. Van Chou highlighted some of Fort Bend County's blessings, benefits and challenges.

7. Glen Gill, 6114 Ashford Falls Lane, Riverstone, stated the court needs to asked, "Do we need a second EDC office, because the County already has one that is doing a great job."

4. Adjournment.

Commissioners Court Special Meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2022.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers,
to adjourn.



I attest to the accuracy of the foregoing minutes.

Laura Richard, County Clerk, Fort Bend County, Texas