



IMPERIAL VALLEY FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

IMPERIAL COUNTY COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • 940 W. Main St., Ste. #203, El Centro, CA, 92243

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 30, 2018 2:00 PM
City of Brawley EOC
351 Main Street, Brawley, CA 92227

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Imperial Valley Foreign Trade Zone – Joint Powers Authority (IVFTZ-JPA) was held on May 30, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the City of Brawley EOC conference room located at 351 Main St. Brawley, CA. 92227.

ATTENDEES

JPA Members

City of Brawley
City of Calexico
City of Calipatria
City of El Centro
County of Imperial

Primary

Rosanna Bayon Moore

Romualdo Medina
Marcela Piedra

Alternate

Miguel Figueroa

Andy Horne

Consultants

Coordinating Staff

I.C. Community & Econ. Development
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Esperanza Colio Warren
Jonathan Garcia

Other Invites

MINUTES

I. Call meeting to order

- a. Roll call.

Meeting was called to order by Miguel Figueroa at 2:08 p.m. Roll call was performed by Jonathan Garcia with five (5) JPA members present; it was determined that quorum was met.



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- b. Approval of 04/04/2018 minutes.

Miguel Figueroa motioned to approve minutes as presented, Andy Horne 2nd. **Vote:** 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion passed.**

II. Discussion/action

- a. Resolution on IVFTZ operator collections effort – Pimentel Case.

E.C. WARREN explained the numerous attempts to contact Ms. Pimentel via email, telephone, and letters regarding her delinquent status with the IVFTZ. When CBP Officers inspected Ms. Pimentel's facility, they found the facility unlocked. In addition, no one was present to assist them in the main office. CBP officers would like supporting documentation that shows the efforts to contact Ms. Pimentel regarding her delinquent status with the IVFTZ. Having Ms. Pimentel's office unlocked and unattended could be a potential liability for the IVFTZ. Therefore, R. MOORE motioned to proceed with initiating the cancellation of her operator's agreement, including sending a notification to US customs. 2nd by A. HORNE: 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion passed.**

- b. Discussion on My Distribution Center & Imperial Railport.

E.C. WARREN provided information about the attempts to contact Mr. Romero and noted they have not been successful as of today. For the next plan of action, she plans to personally visit him to discuss his current IVFTZ status. Currently, there are two issues with the Imperial Railport: 1) location is near a housing development and they do not want his project near the area, and 2) the facility does not comply with CBP standards. Mr. Mercurio would like to re-locate to a different area in the City of Calexico.

- c. IVFTZ Marketing Plan for Internal Promotion.

D. HARLOW explained that the current plan is to meet individually with each City and County representative to create awareness, educate, and identify businesses that could be interested or benefit from the Foreign Trade Zone program. ITC would like to have a discussion with each city and develop a marketing plan that will suit better the needs of each city. D. HARLOW would like to create a marketing plan for each city, return to the next meeting, and present each marketing plan to the board. Meeting with city representatives and coordinating the marketing plan will not incur additional costs; however, after presenting all ideas and marketing plans, final costs will be determined.

- d. Extension of ITC Inc. Consulting Services.

E.C. WARREN spoke about the original agreement with ITC Inc. Consulting Services, which was signed in 2009. An amendment to the agreement, allowing the board to approve annual extensions with ITC. Inc. Consulting Services was approved in 2012. M. PIEDRA motioned to



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approve the letter for a one-year extension from June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019 with all remaining provisions of the original agreement to remain the same. 2nd by R. MEDINA: 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion passed.**

e. Review IVFTZ Budget.

E.C. WARREN mentioned that one of the items pending to be charged to the IVFTZ budget is staff time; however, it is not going to reach the total amount allocated for staff time. M. FIGUEROA mentioned that City of Calexico would make sure to pay their annual contribution as soon as possible. One of the issues with the budget is Pimentel has not paid her contribution for the year of 2017, adding up to a total of \$7,500 owed. JE Exports and Coppel are the only operators that are contributing to the IVFTZ. My Distribution Center and Imperial Railport are not contributing because they are not able to operate under the FTZ umbrella as of yet; therefore, \$20,000 dollars have not been recovered for this fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. For expenditures, it was determined that memberships will not be renewed for each board member; however, the County of Imperial will continue with their membership. Board members will provide feedback in regards to contributions for next fiscal year. M. PIEDRA would like to keep the budget as is to compare it during the next meeting with the new proposals. E.C. WARREN mentioned she would come back to the upcoming meeting with two new budget proposals.

III. Future agenda items and other business

- a. FTZ Individual Marketing Plan for Cities.
- b. Discussion on My Distribution Center – Final Status on FTZ.
- c. Cities Membership Contribution to the FTZ.
- d. Budget Propositions.

IV. Next meeting date

June 21, 2018.

V. Meeting adjourned

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2: 56 p.m.