

Hardee County Economic Development Council/Industrial Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2013
Hardee County BOCC

Jim See- IDA Chairman/EDC Vice Chairman-A	Rick Justice-P	Donald Samuels-P
Vanessa Hernandez- EDC Chairwoman/Vice Chairwoman-P		John O'Neal-A
Dottie Conerly-P	Michael Prescott-P	Lory Durrance-P
Russell Melendy-P	Gene Davis-P	Diana Youmans-P
Doug Jensen-P	Horst Witschonke-P	

The meeting was called to order at 9am.

Russ Melendy opened the meeting in prayer.

Visiting: Benny Albritton, Travis Bond, Robert Cole, Rhonda Cole, Sean Rimes, Greg Witt, Consheryl Adams, Trisha Floyd, Michael Flowers, Bryan Pelham, Ernie Ziglar, Bo See, Kevin Denny, Ken Wheeler, Dustin Jurman, Doug Knight and Lex Albritton.

County Attorney: Ken Evers

County Commissioners: Mike Thompson

Press: Michael Kelly

Staff: Bill Lambert, Sarah Pelham, Kristi Schierling and Krystin Chapman and Casey Dickson (Chamber of Commerce)

Agenda: The agenda was approved as printed.

Minutes: Doug Jensen made a motion and was seconded by Russ Melendy to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 1-Introduction of New Board members

Horst Witschonke and Gene Davis were introduced to the Board as the two new appointed members. Bill also announced that Jim See, Rick Justice and Russ Melendy were re-appointed for new terms. Attorney Evers let the Board know that all oaths for the new members and the re-appointed members have been done. Attorney Evers also said the new members should vote unless there is an apparent conflict of interest.

Item 2-Board Re-appointees

The new re-appointees were addressed in Tab 1.

Item3-Hardee Lakes Update

Ken Wheeler came before the Board to give an update on Hardee Lakes. The design component is complete and wires have been installed to 60 RV sites. Water should be done by the end of the week and concrete will also be poured this week. The total spent to date on the RV sites is \$ 38,159. The total spent on the water plant/distribution is \$19,165 and approximately \$8,000 has been spent on the shell for the road. The electrical and water is expected to be completed by October 1st. The bathrooms should be completed by November and the office and camp store should be done by December.

Item 4-PFMan

The Skype call was unable to take place. Later in the day, Shawn Okun contacted the EDO office and apologized for the call not happening. He is out of the county and his flights got switched around last minute and he was unable to reach us to let us know what was going on. We will work together to have the update at next month's meeting.

Item 5- Continuum Labs update

Travis Bond came before the Board for his monthly update. A copy of his presentation is on file.

Item 6- Continuum Labs 6 month review

Casey Dickson had a PowerPoint presentation for the Board for the 6 month review. A copy of it is on file.

Item 7- Command Center close out report

Sarah Pelham went over the close out report with the Board. She had made a PowerPoint presentation for it and a copy of it is on file.

Item 8-Approval of Financial Audit for FY 2011/2012

There had been no changes from the draft copy at last month's meeting to the final copy at this month's meeting.

Lory Durrance made a motion and was seconded by Doug Jensen to approve and accept the final copy of the Financial Audit as presented. Horst Witschonke and Gene Davis both voted no due to the fact that they were not here for the auditing period. Motion passed.

Item 9-Rapid Systems/IDA Audit

Trisha Floyd, Manager at CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA), came before the Board to review the Rapid Systems Independent Accountant's Report and to discuss any findings. CLA tested for compliance. \$6.3 million had been invested by Rapid Systems in both direct and indirect costs. Only 3 exceptions were noted.

A motion was made by Lory Durrance and seconded by Russ Melendy to acknowledge the audit report. Horst Witschonke voted no due to him not being a member prior to today. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Russ Melendy and seconded by Doug Jensen to direct Bill Lambert and Ken Evers to execute the closeout under the contract agreements. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 10- Authorization to advertise for services

The landscaping and grove service jobs are up for rebidding this year.

Lory Durrance made a motion and was seconded by Russ Melendy to authorize the advertising of the two services up for rebid. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 11- Budget Workshop

Sarah Pelham let the Board know that Wicks, Brown, Williams & Co will be meeting with Trisha Floyd this afternoon. Trisha Floyd will be going over how our budget and the process works. She will also be getting them up to speed. Sarah Pelham also said that the budget must be online 30 days before the fiscal year starts and before adoption. Director Lambert noted that we may have a separate meeting to go over the budget in the next couple of weeks.

Item 12- Attorney Update

Attorney Evers came before the Board to give an update on the lawsuit that the IDA is a party of. A hearing was held last week and the outcome of the hearing was that bank statements and canceled checks will be made available by Continuum Labs.

Also mentioned was the Attorney General opinion that was received. It had answered the question regarding finding one in our audit that was done by the Auditor General and chapter 159 of the Florida Statutes. The IDA can enter into contracts to foster and promote economic development.

Attorney Evers also discussed the removal process of Board members. Chapters 159 and 189 contradict each other. It has been discussed in a BoCC meeting that he (Attorney Evers) may be directed to seek an Attorney General opinion regarding this matter.

Item 13- Project Updates

EDA presentations are on July 2nd. Director Lambert has been in communication with a company by the name of Synsel. They are similar to BioNitrogen. They convert biomass to transportation fuel.

BioNitrogen is moving forward. We hope to do a PFMAn update at the next meeting since todays did not work out. Kristi Schierling, Sarah Pelham and Krystin Chapman are leaving this afternoon to attend the Florida Association of Special District's conference. The culvert repair has been put on hold due to some issues with SWFWMD. The project may be pushed back 30 days. Bids for this project were received and Greg Witt will let us know the results soon. Director Lambert also stated that a company in Zolfo Springs that has requested the extension of natural gas and a company is working with them. He is not too sure of the full status of this but will let everyone know more when he does.

Item 14- Financial Report

March and April's Profit and Loss were presented to the Board today for approval. The ones that were previously accepted had double booking of items on there. This has been corrected and the correct ones are being presented for approval. Sarah Pelham then reviewed the EDC and IDA financials to the Board. Mike Prescott made a motion and was seconded by Dottie Conerly to approve the financials with the amendments to March and April. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15- Announcements

Krystin Chapman gave an update to the Board letting them know about all the organizations we about a member or work closely with. Krystin Chapman also let everyone know that she has applied for a public/private award for our Mosaic Agreement to the IEDC (International Economic Development Council)

Russ Melendy made a motion and was seconded by Doug Jensen to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.