

Hardee County Economic Development Council/Industrial Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2016
Hardee County BOCC

Vanessa Hernandez- Chair-P
Gene Davis- Vice Chair-P
Dottie Conerly-P

Donald Samuels-P
John O'Neal-P
Lory Durrance-P

Diana Youmans-P
Monica Reas-A

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hernandez.

Visiting: Charlie Cox, Sharon Moye, Bruce Stayer, Rhonda Cole, Virginia Brown, Grady Johnson and Don Chancey.

County Attorney: Ken Evers

County Commissioners: Mike Thompson, Sue Birge and Russ Melendy

Press: Michael Kelly

Staff: Bill Lambert, Sarah Pelham and Kristi Schierling

Agenda: Director Lambert would like to move item #8 to item #4 and renumber after that. Lory Durrance made a motion and was seconded by Diana Youmans to approve the agenda with the changes. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Gene Davis made a motion and was seconded by Diana Youmans to approve the 7/12/16 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates/Chair Updates

Director Lambert provided a written report on the EDA and Mosaic monies. He started out reviewing the grants that had been given, ex. Chamber of Commerce, Marauder Properties, Caresync, etc. The mosaic money was also spent on other items such as auditing, accounting, being paired with EDA money, PR and marketing. Director Lambert then reviewed the appropriated money, ex. Commerce Park expansion, MoBo renovation, Olives/Botanicals, admin costs, etc.

Director Lambert would like to turn in the EDA grant that the IDA was awarded for \$1MM that would have been used for the retrofit of the MoBo building. John O'Neal made a motion and was seconded by Dottie Conerly to notice the EDA that we will relinquish the \$1MM back to the EDA. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Lambert went on to say that the BOCC has received each \$500,000 payment that was due to them. It totals \$3MM. Director Lambert also reviewed the EDA monies and closed with thanking everyone.

Draft EDC budget for FYE 2017

Charlie Cox with WicksBrownWilliams reviewed the draft EDC budget for FYE 2017. Nothing has changed since the last meeting other than the BOCC amount will be changed to reflect the \$100,000 that they allotted to us. This change will show on the final budget.

Draft IDA budget for FYE 2017

The spec building grant will be removed from the general fund. There were no other changes this month. The carry forward will change on the budget presented next month. Both the EDC and IDA budget will be voted on at next month's meeting.

*Short break from 9:40am-9:50am

RFP discussion for financial auditors

Director Lambert recommends to RFP for auditors and establish an audit committee. We do need to move quickly. Audits are due June 30th of each year for the prior year's financials. The audit committee will be a sunshine board and the meetings will be advertised. The committee should be composed of some of the board members. The committee will need to follow the guidelines in Florida state statute 218.391. The audit committee will develop the criteria, write the RFP, ranks the firms and bring back a recommendation to the board.

Diana Youmans made a motion and was seconded by Dottie Conerly to establish an audit committee comprising of Vanessa Hernandez, Gene Davis and Lory Durrance and to advertise a meeting right away and with Vanessa being able to appoint an alternate. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting will be August 19th at 8:30 at the BOCC.

Impact Data update

Sarah Pelham gave the board an update of the study. She has been working with them over the last several weeks getting all of the information needed together. We should have the report in the October meeting.

Financials

Gene Davis made a motion and was seconded by Diana Youmans to approve the EDC and IDA financials as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:34am by Chair Hernandez.