

MINUTES

Hardee County Economic Development Council Hardee County Industrial Development Authority

Commission Chambers 412 W. Orange, Room 102, Wauchula, FL 33873 Regular Meeting

7/25/2017 8:30 AM

BOARD MEMBERS

Vanessa Hernandez, Chairwoman | Gene Davis, Vice-Chairman | Monica Reas | Courtney Green | Dorothy Conerly | Lory Durrance | Calli Ward | Tommy Watkins | Bill Lambert

1. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Vanessa Hernandez	Chairwoman	Present	
Gene Davis	Vice-Chairman	Present	
Monica Reas	Board Member	Absent	
Courtney Green	Board Member	Absent	
Dorothy Conerly	Board Member	Present	
Lory Durrance	Board Member	Present	
Calli S Ward	Board Member	Absent	
Tommy Watkins	Board Member	Present	
Bill Lambert	Economic Development Director	Present	
Sarah W Pelham	Economic Development Corrdinator	Present	
Kristi Schierling	Economic Development Office Manager	Present	

Visiting: Bruce Stayer, Charlie Cox, Mark Jordan, Keith DeSanto, Dr. Lauren McDaniel and Bruce Harmon.

County Attorney: Ken Evers

County Commissioners:

Press: Michael Kelly

Staff: Bill Lambert, Sarah Pelham and Kristi Schierling

2. Approval of Agenda

Item 2.1. Motion to approve agenda with the changes

Director Lambert suggested changing 4.4 to 4.1 and 4.7 to 4.2 and then everything else will fall behind those.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gene Davis, Vice-Chairman
SECONDER:	Lory Durrance, Board Member
AYES:	Hernandez, Davis, Conerly, Durrance, Watkins
ABSENT:	Reas, Green, Ward

3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3.1. June 2017 EDC/IDA Minutes

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tommy Watkins, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dorothy Conerly, Board Member
AYES:	Hernandez, Davis, Conerly, Durrance, Watkins
ABSENT:	Reas, Green, Ward

4. Agenda Items

Item 4.1. FHERO Marketing Video

Marketing Alliance produced a video for the FHERO region as well as for Hardee County. Both videos were played.

Item 4.2. DRAFT EDC Budget FY 2017-2018

Charlie Cox reviewed the draft EDC budget for next fiscal year. The only notable change to this budget is the larger transfer from the IDA. The BOCC will not be funding the EDC during the 2017-2018 fiscal year and the IDA Mosaic money will be making up the difference.

Item 4.3. DRAFT IDA Budget FY 2017-2018

Charlie Cox reviewed the draft IDA budget for next fiscal year. The general fund side had listed 2 EDA grants and 1 Federal grant. The special revenue side was also reviewed by Charlie and Director Lambert had a quick written synopsis of the new appropriations for the upcoming fiscal year.

Item 4.4. Bill of Sale- City of Wauchula-Will Duke

This bill of sale is moving the ownership of the improvements done to the Will Duke area to the City of Wauchula.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gene Davis, Vice-Chairman
SECONDER:	Lory Durrance, Board Member
AYES:	Hernandez, Davis, Conerly, Durrance, Watkins
ABSENT:	Reas, Green, Ward

Item 4.5. BioSurf Pro, Inc/ Rhamnolipid Presentation

Dr. Lauren McDaniel reviewed her presentation with the board. She discussed the rhamnolipid production and its many applications. They have been talking to Mote Marine regarding the aquaculture applications. Bruce Harmon also had a presentation for the board. He discussed the potential jobs and projected payroll for Hardee County. BioSurf Pro is seeking from the IDA, 100 acres of land that will primarily be used for the solar farm

and will need additional acres as they grow. An approximate 27,000 square foot building and working capital in the amount of \$2,000,000 over an 18 month period.

Director Lambert would like to continue working with them and see what could be done.

Item 4.6. Career Tech presentation

Mark Jordan was here today before the board with his presentation on CareerTech. This is an adult vo-tech school. CareerTech was founded in 2010. Mark Jordan decided that truck driving would be the way to go. There is only a 4-8 week training required to get a CDL Class A drivers license. This would be great for the working family since it could be completed while doing it full time or part time. CareerTech is currently located in Lakeland, FL and operates 15 trucks and trailers. About 500 new truck drivers graduate each year and achieves over 90% job placement rate. Their next step is to create a truck driver school in Wauchula. The goals are to graduate 250 new truck drivers each year and to place 250 new drivers in good paying jobs. The school will need 10 to 20 acres located on a truck route with proper zoning and about 4 acres of pavement. The classroom and facility space needs to be about 2,000 square feet. CareerTech is requesting two needs. Funding for scholarships and student loans and the other is funding for campus facilities. Director Lambert will continue to work with Mark Jordan and see what can be done. He will schedule a follow up meeting.

Item 4.7. DRAFT RFP for Engineering Services

Sarah Pelham discussed the RFP for engineering services. This was the RFP that the County used when they advertised. Sarah and Ken Evers went through and changed everything that had the County's name and replaced it with the IDA. We will choose up to 5 to come back and make a presentation to the board. We are able to enter contract negotiations with all 5 or less if the board wishes. This will be advertised on Demand Star, which is what the County uses to advertise. It will be listed for 60 days.

5. Project Updates/Chair Updates

The lease with Hardee Fresh has been consummated and the deposit has been received. They will move in sometime in September. We still have to pave the parking lot, finish the truck well and move the offices in. Last week, Bill met with site selectors in Greenville, SC. He said that the number one thing they look for is infrastructure and workforce.

Chair Hernandez brought up that she would like to see something done with the Incubator doors that have the plywood behind them. It is an eyesore and she would like for it to be replaced with possibly a decal that you can see out of from the inside and can't see in from the outside. Director Lambert noted that there is money appropriated again for the next fiscal year to take care of signage and landscaping and other areas for the Incubator.

6. Financial Report

Item 6.1. June 2017 EDC/IDA Financials

This will be moved to the next meeting for approval as there was no longer a quorum present to approve.

RESULT:	CONTINUED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Hernandez, Davis, Durrance, Watkins
ABSENT:	Reas, Green, Ward
EXCUSED:	Conerly

7. Announcements/Other Business/Public Comments

8. Adjournment