



MINUTES

Hardee County Economic Development Council Hardee County Industrial Development Authority

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

9/30/2021 8:30 AM

BOARD MEMBERS

Tommy Watkins, Chairman | Denise Grimsley, Vice-Chairman | Courtney Green | Calli Ward | Gene Davis | Lee Mikell | Barney Cherry

I. Invocation

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tommy Watkins	Chairman	Present	
Denise Grimsley	Vice-Chairman	Present	
Courtney Green	Board Member	Present	
Calli Ward	Board Member	Present	
Gene Davis	Board Member	Absent	
Lee Mikell	Board Member	Absent	
Barney Cherry	Board Member	Present	

Visitors: Mary Jane Stanley, Angela Crist, Lory Durrance, Vicki Rogers, Ken Evers, Lex Albritton, Bruce Stayer, David Royal, Sherri Albritton, Mike Thompson, Terry Atchley, Minor Bryant, Heather Nedley, Park Winter, Russell Schweiss, Todd Miller, and Paul Scheuren (via Zoom).

EDC/IDA Attorney: Shannon Nash

Staff: Bill Lambert, Sarah Pelham, Kristi Schierling, Krystin Chapman and Justin Smith.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was approved as presented by a motion made by Commissioner Wyatt and seconded by Commissioner Flores.

V. Appointments

Item . A. 3662 : USF-FIOG Economic Impact Study

Krystin Chapman opened by thanking everyone for attending today. Sarah Pelham gave background information. This report was started in early 2020 and quarantine hit quickly after, putting everything on hold for about a year. This is a piggy back on previous reports. The first report covered 2006-2012 with the follow up report covering 2012-2016. This current report covers 2016-2020. We also ended up doing a look back of the last 14 years. Sarah introduced Angela Crist. She is the Director of the Florida Institute of Government. Sarah also introduced Mary Jane Stanley who is a contractor for the Institute. Paul Scheuren is attending via zoom. He is an economic with Impact Data Source. He was contracted by the Institute to perform the rubric and input of data into the charts. Sarah informed the boards of the process of gathering the data that was used in the report. Paul Scheuren reviewed the report with both boards. He started off on page 10 of the report. This table shows the number of projects supported by the EDC/IDA by year. Since 2006, the EDC/IDA had worked with 40 different prospects which created 24 actual landed projects and created 531 direct jobs. Short descriptions of the business locations were provided. Analysis of construction impacts are shown on page 13. Infrastructure investments and impacts are listed in the charts on page 14. IDA infrastructure investments totaled \$6,653,240 and developer/outside funding totaled \$43,478,329. Summary of economic impact on employment and workers' earnings added each year is shown on page 15. According to the report, the firms supported by the EDC/IDA over the last 15 years generated direct, indirect and induced revenues for area businesses of \$1.5 billion. A total of 373 direct permanent jobs were created by the businesses that continue to operate as of this report. Over the 15 year period, it is projected that these employees were paid approximately \$237.3 million in workers' earnings.

Sarah Pelham said that we should brainstorm a way to capture all of the economic development impact which would encompass the EDC/IDA and EDA.

VI. Public Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

Mr. Terry Atchley - City of Wauchula City Manager

Mr. Russell Schweiss - Vice-President of Land Management for Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC

Mr. Lawrence McNaul - County Manager

Mr. Mike Thompson

Mr. Bill Lambert - Economic Development Director

Mr. Minor Bryant

Mr. Justin Smith - Assistant Economic Development Director

VII. Adjournment