



HARDEE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Minutes

**Hardee County Economic Development Council
Hardee County Industrial Development Authority**

Regular Meeting

March 9, 2023 at 8:30 AM

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

Board Members

Lee Mikell, Chairman
Barney Cherry, Vice-Chairman
Gene Davis
Calli Ward
Courtney Green



HARDEE COUNTY
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Visiting: County Commissioner Renee Wyatt, Kyleigh Revell, Bruce Stayer, and Michael Kelly.

Staff: Sarah Evers, Denise Grimsley, Justin Smith, Krystin Chapman and Kristi Schierling

EDC/IDA Attorney: Shannon Nash

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Motion to approve the agenda as presented

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Courtney Green, Board Member
SECONDER:	Gene Davis, Board Member
AYES:	Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Green
ABSENT:	Ward

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Lee Mikell** -February 2023 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gene Davis, Board Member
SECONDER:	Barney Cherry, Vice-Chairman
AYES:	Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Green
ABSENT:	Ward

4. AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Sarah Evers** -Landscape Contract for Award- Staff recommends Krause Grove Service, Inc

We received two bids. One was local and the other was from out of town. Both responses were comparable to each other. It was decided to choose Krause Services. They were the local bidder and were slightly lower in cost. This is a one year contract with 3 one year extensions. Staff recommends the award go to Krause Services.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of staff and award the contract to Krause Services.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Courtney Green, Board Member
SECONDER:	Gene Davis, Board Member
AYES:	Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Green
ABSENT:	Ward

2. **Denise Grimsley -Funding of Economic Impact Study**

Mrs. Grimsley reminded the board that in the August 2022 meeting, the County requested our board to fund the economic impact study by Hazen and Sawyer. This study will do a comprehensive assessment of the county's economy and look at the post mining scenario. We know that mining will end one day and we want to make every effort to have the county ready economically when that occurs. This study will compare our county to others our size without mining. Hazen and Sawyer are reviewing the studies our office has and we have been very involved in the process. They are also meeting with county staff and Mosaic. To date the county has paid \$14k. The total estimate of the study was \$139,000. It is the staffs recommendation to fund the balance of the Hardee County Economic and Land Use Study in the amount not to exceed \$130,000.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the funding for the Hardee County Economic and Land Use Study not to exceed \$130,000.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Courtney Green, Board Member
SECONDER:	Barney Cherry, Vice-Chairman
AYES:	Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Green
ABSENT:	Ward

5. **UPDATES**

1. **Justin Smith -Executive Report**

Justin Smith reported on 126 W. Main. Construction is complete and we have the CO. Sarah Evers did note that during her walkthrough, there were some items that needed a touchup in the event anyone sees people in there doing work. R. Riveter units 2,3, and 4 will be completed by the end of the month. Unit 1, which is on the corner, will take a bit longer to complete. We can't paint until everything is completed. During the site meeting, the far west side will need to be stucco and the back too. The parking lot project will begin in April or May. The state has opened a new round of funding for broadband. We will have focus groups on broadband so we can learn the wants and needs from the community. The commerce park sign has been updated. We have rebranded it as a business park. Krystin Chapman provided an update on our education efforts and working with different education groups in the county such as The Donnie Canary Foundation.

6. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. **Kristi Schierling -February 2023 EDC/IDA Financials**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 2023 EDC/IDA financials as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gene Davis, Board Member
SECONDER:	Courtney Green, Board Member
AYES:	Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Green
ABSENT:	Ward

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

8. ADJOURNMENT