



HARDEE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MINUTES

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

Regular Meeting

March 12, 2024, at 8:30 AM

**Commissioner 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
Chris Idsardi
John Gill



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	Present	
Courtney Green	Board Member	Present	
Chris Idsardi	Board Member	Present	
John Gill	Board Member	Present	

Visiting: County Manager Terry Atchley and County Commissioner Renee Wyatt.

Staff: Denise Grimsley, Krystin Chapman, Justin Smith, Mia Vasquez, and Kristi Schierling

EDC/IDA Attorney: Kaylee Tuck

Chairman Mikell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Gene Davis and second by Board Member Barney Cherry to approve as presented.

Motion carried

Ayes – Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Ward, Green, Idsardi, and Gill

Nays- None

Absent- None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 2024 EDC/IDA Minutes

Motion by Board Member Gene Davis and second by Board Member Courtney Green to approve the February 2024 EDC/IDA minutes as presented.

Motion carried

Ayes – Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Ward, Green, Idsardi, and Gill

Nays – None

Absent- None

4. EXECUTIVE REPORT

1. Krystin Chapman- Executive Report

Krystin Chapman began the report with last month's Lunch N Learn. Julie Burch was our guest speaker. Everyone really enjoyed her and other businesses have reached out to her to bring her into their place of business. Our annual meeting is April 16th and tickets are on sale for \$10. David Hill will present the survey results at the BOCC

workshop on April 4th at 8:30 am. The Grow Hardee recipients will have their pictures taken on March 25th at 11 am if any board members would like to attend. There were 12 applicants awarded in the total amount of \$250,000. Krystin Chapman showed a rendering of Gardens at Midtown and read quotes from two attendees of Building a Vibrant Community. Krystin also highlighted the tour at the Center for Great Apes. It was very informative and a great asset that we have here. Justin Smith gave an update on the multi-purpose grant. We are waiting on the contract from the State. The lot for Aloha is moving right along. They have put a Future Home of Aloha sign up at the lot and dirt is being moved. Sarah Evers gave an update on the Inland Port study. We were awarded \$278,000 in January. We are just waiting on the grant agreement now. Denise Grimsley finished the executive report. We are working on the best strategies for Bostick Rd. She met with SFSC President Hawkins and the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association regarding hotel development.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Justin Smith- Resolution 2024-02 Authorizing Closing of Real Property Located on North Hwy 17, Wauchula

This contract was approved at last month's meeting. This is the resolution needed to sale the property to the County.

Motion by Board Member John Gill and second by Board Member Calli Ward to approve Resolution 2024-02 approving and authorizing the execution of a sale/purchase contract for real property contract for the sale of real property located in Wauchula, Hardee County, Florida and confirming the authority of the Chair and Vice Chair to sign all documents necessary for closing, and providing for an effective date.

Motion carried.

Ayes- Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Ward, Green, Idsardi, and Gill

Nays- None

Absent- None

2. Sarah Evers- Third Amendment to Commercial Sale/Purchase Contract with Trussworks Realty Florida, LLC

This amendment being presented is extending the due diligence period for an additional 60 days. We, not Trussworks, has asked for this extension. We are working with our construction management team to find the best location for Trussworks and assessing all options. The permitting process for the property on 62 has been very lengthy. This is why we are looking at other locations. Trussworks does not have a dead-stop date but they are very eager and ready to get a location.

Motion by Board Member Chris Idsardi and second by Board Member Barney Cherry to approve the third amendment to the commercial sale/purchase contract with Trussworks Realty Florida, LLC and authorize the Chair or Vice Chair to sign.

Motion carried.

Ayes- Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Ward, Green, Idsardi, and Gill

Nays- None

Absent- None

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

1. February 2024 EDC/IDA Financials

Motion by Board Member Chris Idsardi and second by Board Member Calli Ward to approve the January 2024 EDC/IDA Financials as presented.

Motion carried.

Ayes – Mikell, Cherry, Davis, Ward, Green, Idsardi, and Gill

Nays – None

Absent- None

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Mikell announced that the Hardee County Players opening is March 15th for *Twice Upon a Time*.

9. ADJOURNMENT