

Economic Development Authority
Minutes
October 7, 2021
6:00 p.m.

The Lee County Economic Development Authority met in regular session Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse located in Jonesville, Virginia. Present were Chairman Greg Edwards, Board Members Ray Blair, Chad Hines, and A.J. Hatmaker, Community Development Director Richard Johnson, Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder, EDA Attorney Rick Callahan, Daniel Osborne and Deana Osborne. Vice-Chairman Paul Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer Liz Myers and Board Member Mark Long were unable to attend meeting.

Chairman Edwards determined that a quorum was present then called the meeting to order.

Approval of EDA Minutes

Chairman Edwards called for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2021 meeting and the August 25, 2021 Joint meeting with the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

Ray Blair made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2021 meeting and the August 25, 2021 Joint Meeting with the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

Chad Hines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Approval of EDA Financial Report, Bills & Payments

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to approve the financial report, bills & payments for the month of October. Ray Blair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Southwest Propane

Chairman Edwards stated that the Board would discuss Southwest Propane in executive session.

TRRC Grant

Director Johnson stated that he had filed an updated W-9 form with the Tobacco Commission for the TRRC Grant and that the EDA should be receiving a check soon.

Small Business Lending Account

Director Johnson informed the Board that the loan closing for Appa Valley, LLC has been taken care of and that Appa Valley, LLC has already paid their first payment.

St Charles Buildings Transfer

Ray Blair made a motion to allow Chairman Edwards to sign the deed transferring the St. Charles buildings to the Lee County Board of Supervisors. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Dryden Building Issues

Director Johnson stated that since the last meeting there has been another drainage issue at the Dryden building. He said that the drain blockage continues to happen.

Chairman Edwards stated that it is an internal problem and that future problems would be the responsibility of England Furniture Company.

Meeting Participation by Electronic Means

Chairman Edwards stated that the Code of Virginia allows the electronic participation under certain circumstances although a physical quorum would still be required. A physical quorum for the EDA would require four board members present.

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to approve establishing a policy for Meeting Participation by Electronic Means. Ray Blair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Letters of Support

Director Johnson stated that Appa Valley, LLC and Lee Driving School have requested a letter of support for Seed Capital funding from VCEDA.

Chad Hines made a motion to approve a letter of support for Appa Valley, LLC and Lee Driving School. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kane Gap Trail Resolution of Support

Director Johnson stated that Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Association is requesting Go Virginia funding for the Kane Gap Trail project which will be from Duffield to Stickleyville. He said that the Lenowisco Planning District had contacted him requesting the Resolution.

Chairman Edwards made a motion to approve the Resolution of Support for the Kane Gap Trail. Chad Hines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports & Recommendations of the Board

None

Reports & Recommendations of the Director

Director Johnson stated that the Board had requested a list of names of individuals that would be willing to help with the reorganization of a Chamber of Commerce. He said that he was working on a list.

Chairman Edwards stated that he would help and that Shirley Watson said that she would be willing to help also.

Executive Session

Chad Hines made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Section 2.2-3711 A.4 (Protection of the Privacy of Individuals) Section 2.2-3711 A.5 (Discussion of Prospective Business) and Section 2.2-3711 A.7 (Consultation With Legal Counsel).

A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Blair made a motion to come out of executive session. Chad Hines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Edwards polled the Board that they only discussed issues pertaining to the entry of executive session.

Ray Blair made a motion to adjourn. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Secretary

Cathy Wilder

October 12, 2021