

Economic Development Authority
Minutes
October 5, 2023
6:00 p.m.

The Lee County Economic Development Authority met in regular session Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse located in Jonesville, Virginia. Present were Chairman Greg Edwards, Vice-Chairman Paul Johnson, Board Members A.J. Hatmaker, Mark Long and Ray Blair, Interim Community Development Director Dane Poe, Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder, EDA Attorney Rick Callahan and Rick Watson with Powell Valley News. Richard Sprinkle, Jr. and Chad Hines were unable to attend the 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 September 7, 2023 meeting.

Mark Long made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2023 meeting. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment

None

Approval of EDA Financial Report, Bills & Payments

Paul Johnson made a motion to approve the financial report and paying the bills for the month of October. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

England Furniture Maintenance

Conduit and Exposed Wire Update

Interim Director Poe stated that he and Building Official, Clint Carter looked at the conduit and exposed wiring at the England Building. He stated that some of the wiring needs to be corrected and some doesn't pose a safety threat. He said he did not think it would take much time to make the corrections. He also said that some of the work that needs to be done is 18' to 20' above the floor and some is directly over the work stations, his suggestion was to do the work on Saturday when the employees are not present.

Mark Long stated that he has not gotten to meet with Jeff Harber and that the students are excited about possibly getting to do the work at the England Building. He said they were insured and capable of doing the work.

Interim Director Poe stated that he would schedule a meeting with England officials in next week or so and will try to come back to the Board next month with more information.

Sprinkler Inspection Report Update

Interim Director Poe stated that according to Jeff Harber the problem has been resolved with the Sprinkler System.

COIP Sign Repair

Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder stated that she had spoken with Morristown Signs and they are scheduled to repair the sign tomorrow, weather permitting. She also informed the board that VaCorp Insurance mailed the check for the claim for the sign damage on October 2nd and that the check should be received in a couple of days.

New Business

Letters of Support for Seed Capital Grant Applications

Interim Director Poe stated that he did not receive any follow up regarding the letters of support for the Seed Capital Grant Applications.

Revolving Loan Fund Application

Interim Director Poe stated that he has received a revised proposal that will be discussed in closed session.

Reports & Recommendations of the Board

Ray Blair asked what the status is regarding Charley's.

Chairman Edwards stated that would be discussed in closed session.

Reports & Recommendations of the Director

Interim Director Poe stated that he has a draft copy of the 2022 audit from Rodefer, Moss & Co. He said we should have the audit by next month's meeting.

Executive Session

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Section 2.2-3711 A.6, Investing of Public Funds (Contracts). Ray Blair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Blair made a motion to come out of executive session. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Edwards polled the board that they only discussed issues pertaining to the entry of executive session. All board members affirmed.

Ray Blair made a motion to allow Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder to close the existing checking account at Powell Valley National Bank and to open a new checking account with the Authority's name change which is Economic Development Authority of Lee County Virginia. Checks will require two signatures and the names on the existing signature cards will remain the same, A.J. Hatmaker, Paul Johnson, Chad Hines, Ray Blair and Richard Sprinkle, Jr.

Paul Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Blair made a motion to adjourn. Mark Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Secretary
Cathy Wilder
October 6, 2023