

Economic Development Authority
Minutes
September 7, 2023
6:00 p.m.

The Lee County Economic Development Authority met in regular session Thursday, September 7, 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 Chad Hines, A.J. Hatmaker, Mark Long, 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. was 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 July 6, 2023 meeting.

Mark Long made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 6, 2023 meeting. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment

None

Approval of EDA Financial Report, Bills & Payments

Ray Blair made a motion to approve the financial report and paying the bills for the month of September. Chad Hines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder stated that one more invoice had been received after the board packets were mailed which was from Bank of America (credit card) for the amount of \$1,147.92 for expenses from the Director's trip to Williamsburg. She stated that this expense should be reimbursed from the VCEDA Marketing Stipend Fund.

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to approve payment for the Bank of America invoice for the amount of \$1,147.92. Chad Hines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

England Furniture Maintenance

Sewer Repair Contract

Interim Director Dane Poe stated that the sewer repair work has been completed.

Conduit and Exposed Wire Update

Interim Director Poe stated that he has not had a chance to get with Jeff Harber or Brian Pendleton regarding the issues.

Sprinkler Inspection Report Update

Interim Director Poe stated that like the conduit and exposed wiring, he has not had a chance to check on the issues.

Mark Long asked about the conduit and exposed wiring. He stated that if it is putting in new conduit and covering exposed wiring that it would be a great job for the electricity class at the vocational school and that it would be free of charge.

Interim Director Poe stated that he will check to see what is needed.

COIP Sign Repair

Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder told the board that two estimates have been received for the repair of the sign at Constitutional Oaks Industrial Park. Morristown Signs' estimate was for the amount of \$1,278.59 with a \$639.30 deposit required and Snyder Signs was for the amount of \$1,347.14 with a \$673.57 deposit required.

Mark Long made a motion to allow Morristown Signs to repair the sign at Constitutional Oaks Industrial Park for the amount of \$1,278.59. Paul Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Short Term Investment Solicitation & Responses

Chairman Edwards requested to discuss in closed session.

New Business

Quarterly Report Jan-Mar 2023 (Diana Pope)

Chairman Edwards stated that a copy of the Quarterly report from Diana Pope is included in the board packet.

VaCorp Insurance Coverage Certificate

Ray Blair made a motion to allow Chairman Edwards to sign the VaCorp insurance coverage certificate. A.J. Hatmaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Letters of Support for Seed Capital Grant Applications

Interim Director Poe stated that one application was sent confidentially with the board packets for the boards review and the second application was given to the board at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Poe requested to discuss in closed session.

The Lane Group Golf Scramble

Chairman Edwards stated that the golf scramble will be Friday, September 8th with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Reports & Recommendations of the Board

Chairman Edwards stated that the wooden barn at the western end of Constitutional Oaks Industrial Park is in poor condition.

Interim Director Poe stated that he will look at it when he gets the chance.

Ray Blair asked if there is an update regarding the EDA's Traverse.

Community Development Secretary Cathy Wilder stated that Vince Williams has done some work to the Traverse.

Chairman Edwards stated that he talked to Vince Williams and that Mr. Williams said that the repairs would be minor.

Reports & Recommendations of the Director

Vegg, Inc.

Interim Director Poe stated that they do indoor farming, they specialize in old government buildings and old school buildings and that it is something to keep in mind for the future.

Executive Session

Ray Blair made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Section 2.2-3711A.5, Discussion of Prospective Business and 2.2-3711 A.6, Investing of Public Funds (Contracts). Paul Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A.J. Hatmaker 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. All board members affirmed.

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to provide a letter of support for Good Ol Boys Processing, LLC for the VCEDA Seed Capital Matching Fund Grant. Ray Blair seconded the motion. Chairman Edwards abstained. The motion passed.

Paul Johnson made a motion to allow Chairman Edwards to negotiate and enter into a contract for a \$100,000.00 Certificate of Deposit with Edward Jones. Ray Blair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A.J. Hatmaker made a motion to adjourn. Paul Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Secretary
Cathy Wilder
September 11, 2023