

Economic Development Authority of Patrick County

Meeting of February 9, 2012

Present: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett

Also Present: Tom Rose, Economic Development Director; Wilma Pendleton, Administrative Assistant, Brian Ratliff, Patrick Springs; Karl Weiss, BOS; Lock Boyce, BOS; Danny Foley liaison to the BOS, and Nancy Lindsey; the Enterprise

Absent: Terry Dalton, Secretary; and Twyla Neil

A meeting of the Economic Development Authority of Patrick County was held on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the second floor conference room of the Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building.

Mr. Roycroft called the meeting to order. The agenda was presented for approval. On motion by Mr. Haley, seconded by Ms. Shelor and carried the board approved the agenda.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

The minutes of January 12, 2012 meeting were presented for approval. On motion by Ms. Harding, seconded by Ms. Shelor and carried, the board approved the minutes.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; and Felecia Shelor

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: Ron Haley, and Dale Puckett

FINANCE REPORT (BILLS):

Mr. Rose presented the EDA finance reports for monthly billings. (Finance report is available). On motion by Mr. Puckett seconded by Ms. Harding and carried the board approved to pay the bills.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Mr. Rose informed the board that the Department of Corrections grant had been received and that the request would go before the BOS to approve the pay off of the loan through the EDA for the jail.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The board welcomed Mr. Brian Ratliff of Patrick Springs and gave him the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Ratliff inquired on the status of the sewer project in Patrick Springs. Mr. Rose informed everyone that the first hookup was today. The pump station is working now; the alarm system was not dialing out previously. He informed them that Mr. Tilley with the Town of Stuart would be the contact person and that they are at least three contractors in the area that can be obtained. Mr. Ratliff stated that he was the first to be hooked up with the water and he was wondering when they might get the sewer to Town and County. He stated that there was interest in a restaurant on his property and that he has already spoken with Mr. Ray Martin concerning a grease trap. Mr. Rose informed him that the sewer should be ready within four to six weeks.

OFFICE UPDATES:

Code of Ethics for EDA

Mr. Roycroft distributed a copy of the Carroll County Board of Supervisors Code of Ethics at the meeting in January and suggested that it be modified for a Code of Ethics for the EDA. The board had discussion and Ms. Harding and Mr. Roycroft gave Ms. Pendleton their markups with the information they would like to have changed. Ms. Pendleton will type up a rough draft and e-mail it to the board for review.

Small Business Grant

At the January meeting, the board decided to have an open discussion in February to brainstorm how they might be able to help small businesses in the area or those who might want to locate in the area. Mr. Roycroft opened the floor for discussion. There were three members of the Board of Supervisors present and two of the members took part in the discussion.

Areas of discussion were how to grow a business; what types of businesses were needed, where should the local growth be, what constitutes a small business, what plans need to be developed, what kind of a package can they put together, what is the template for locating the types of businesses that the Board of Supervisors would like for the EDA to pursue, where should they advertise and what type of advertisement should they use, what types of incentives can and should they offer without using tobacco money; they want to get away from those grants because of the claw backs. Some incentives that they hashed around were tax exemptions for the first two years of business, forgive building permits, reduction in water and sewer hookup. Also discussed for types of businesses were hotels, other lodging alternatives in Meadows of Dan, restaurant chains, a higher education institution and a geriatric prison which could be built next to the jail and would need caregivers plus the local hospital could be the medical provider. The EDA does not spend money without the consent of the Board of Supervisors.

They discussed some of the cons such as no good major roads, no railway, and no trained workforce to staff big businesses and competition from counties who can afford large cash incentives. Therefore, they are concentrating more on small businesses and different types of

businesses. The pros are that the taxes are still low compared to other counties and states even though the assessment was higher than expected, plus we have a first class school system.

The hiring of human resources staff such as a grant writer and lobbyist were discussed.

Mr. Rose informed the board that he had been working with contacts for several months concerning a hotel in Patrick County. He informed the board that hotels want the county to do a feasibility study and they are not simple ones; several things need to be taken into consideration including what banks will loan. He informed them that he would be contacted on Friday, February 10, 2012 concerning a hotel. He also stated that Mr. Gordon was also going to be contacting him again.

Ms. Harding requested that Mr. Boyce go before the Board of Supervisors to get their approval on having a quarterly meeting between the EDA and the BOS to discuss the types of businesses that the BOS would like for the EDA to pursue in locating their business in Patrick County. She suggested that it be a quarterly meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. It was suggested by Ms. Shelor that they get two or three ideas and work together to make it happen.

Ms. Shelor requested that the idea of a lobbyist be put on the agenda for discussion for a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Change date of meeting

Mr. Rose asked the board if they would like to consider changing the time of the meeting to 6:00 or 6:30; however, some of the members could not make it to the meetings that early, so the day and time remains the same.

Jamie's Recycling

Mr. Rose gave the board an update on Jamie's Recycling. He informed them that land had been cleared and they had plans for a building. They plan to plant trees and put a fence out front. It is not a great solution, but it is a start.

At the last meeting, they discussed the fact that Jamie's recycling is going to be moving near Vernon's Car Wash in Patrick Springs and perhaps this added traffic might be enough to provide a light at the intersection of 680, but for now VDOT is working on some other ideas to keep the intersection safer. Mr. Weiss spoke with Mr. Poindexter and he was informed from him that only VDOT had the power to get a stop light put in. Mr. Boyce voiced that a stop light would be hazardous because according to safety engineers the high speed at which a tractor trailer would be coming through that area would only cause more problems. Some of the suggestions are putting up signs to slow down, reduce the speed limit, and perhaps using flashing lights.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Ms. Shelor and seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously; the meeting was called into Executive Session under the appropriate codes of Virginia to discuss legal matters [Section 2.2-3711(A) (7), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett
Voting Nay: N/A
Abstaining: N/A

RECONVENE

On motion by Ms. Harding and seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously; the meeting was reconvened by the appropriate codes. A roll call vote was taken with unanimous vote that only the items listed above were discussed during Executive Session.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett
Voting Nay: N/A
Abstaining: N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to discuss, on motion by Mr. Haley seconded by Ms. Harding and carried; the meeting was adjourned.

Voting Aye: Glenn Roycroft, Chairman; Gail Harding, Vice Chairperson; Ron Haley, and Felecia Shelor, and Dale Puckett
Voting Nay: N/A
Abstaining: N/A

Chairperson

Date

NEXT MEETING: March 8, 2012