

Economic Development Authority of Patrick County

Meeting of December 8th, 2021, 7:00 PM

106 Rucker Street, Patrick County Administration Building, Third Floor Board Room

Present: Bill Clark, Chairman; Ron Haley, Vice-Chairman; Glenn Roycroft; Debra Shelor; Harold Gregory; David Lusk

Also Present: Sean Adkins, Economic Development Director; Crystal Harris, Board of Supervisors; Clayton Kendrick, Board of Supervisors; Taylor Boyd, The Enterprise

Absent: George Stovall, Secretary

A meeting of the Economic Development Authority of Patrick County was held on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 in the Third Floor Board Room of the Patrick County Administration Building at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES

Mr. Haley proposed an amendment to the October 27th meeting minutes, to remove his name as being present and voting Aye to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Clark informed the Authority of George Stovall's resignation, and proposed adding the appointment of another EDA member as new Secretary with signatory ability to the agenda. On motion by Ron Haley, seconded by Harold Gregory, the motion carries, as well as approving the amended October 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Harris spoke and thanked the EDA for their service and time throughout her 20 years on the Board of Supervisors.

FINANCE REPORT (BILLS):

Mr. Adkins presented the Finance Report, and proposed to pay electronically for the regular bills each month after getting the Officers signatures on authorization forms. Mr. Clark and Mr. Haley voiced opposition, and Mr. Adkins agreed to continue the check process currently in place. The regular monthly bills of Appalachian Power, CenturyLink, and RiverStreet Networks were presented. Mr. Adkins brought up an overpayment by ViaSat, and agreed to continue to look into the matter.

On motion by Debra Shelor, seconded by David Lusk and carried, the Authority approved the finance report and payment of bills for the months of October and November 2021.

Voting Aye: Bill Clark; Ron Haley; Glenn Roycroft; Debra Shelor; Harold Gregory; David Lusk

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: N/A
Absent: George Stovall

EDA UPDATES

PATRICK COUNTY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mr. Adkins explained that the auditors said that the building use is not sufficient use to satisfy the CARES Act funds to purchase a building. Mr. Adkins presented a verbal agreement with Total Action for Progress (TAP) to get into the building as a measure of good faith to show their commitment to establishing their presence into Patrick County. TAP plans to provide business assistance, entrepreneurship (adult and youth) programs, revolving loan funds, and tax help to local citizens.

BROADBAND

Mr. Adkins informed the Authority that the VATI application was officially challenged by Comcast, and that we submitted a successful rebuttal, which removed the challenge and allowed the application to move forward. They expect to hear back by the end of the calendar year.

OLD BUSINESS

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Mr. Adkins informed the Authority of the Downtown Stuart Planning Grant, and how a local façade grant program would strengthen the application process. He then requested a \$25,000 match from the Authority, to combine with the same match from the Board of Supervisors. The Board was not willing to provide a match at this time.

Mr. Adkins proposed a change to the Machine and Tools tax incentive, specifically implementing a minimum investment threshold of \$1M in order to access the incentive. The Board was not willing to make the change, and requested that the language be made more clearer in the incentive.

NEW BUSINESS

ARPA Funds

Ms. Shelor asked about the Patrick County ARPA Funds application and committee, to which Mr. Adkins answered questions. Mr. Adkins informed the Authority that he will be submitting a request to them for the Patrick County Business Development Center. Mr. Clark spoke about various funding entities that they Center would be eligible for, and there will likely be a 50% match. This match will leave \$1.2M (of the \$2.4M estimate in the feasibility study, Oct '21), that we will need to find the funds to hit that mark.

Federal EDA Grant

Mr. Adkins explained the upcoming Federal EDA grant in conjunction with Franklin County, and the Towns of Boones Mill, Rocky Mount, and Stuart. The match is 5-1, so \$20K would receive \$100K. Mr. Adkins requested funds from the Authority for this effort, but the Authority was not willing to provide a match at this time.

Economic Development Authority Secretary

On motion by Glenn Roycroft to nominate Debra Shelor, seconded by Ron Haley, the motion carries. Ms. Shelor accepts the nomination.

Voting Aye: Bill Clark; Ron Haley; Glenn Roycroft; Harold Gregory; David Lusk

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: Debra Shelor

Absent: N/A

Ten Oaks Announcement and Performance Agreement

Mr. Adkins discussed the Ten Oaks announcement event earlier that day: \$9.3M local investment, 11 new jobs, and another \$18M in Virginia hardwood. It was the first announcement event since around 2008.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Glenn Roycroft, seconded by Harold Gregory and carried unanimously, the meeting was called into Executive Session under the appropriate codes of Virginia to discuss Real Estate [Section 2.2-3711 (A) (3)]; Legal Matters [Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7)] and Contracts [Section 2.2-3711 (A) (29)] 1950 Code of Virginia.

Voting Aye: Bill Clark; Ron Haley; Glenn Roycroft; Debra Shelor; Harold Gregory; David Lusk

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: George Stovall

RECONVENE

On motion by Glenn Roycroft, seconded by Harold Gregory 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 the Executive Session.

Voting Aye: Bill Clark; Ron Haley; Glenn Roycroft; Debra Shelor; Harold Gregory; David Lusk

Voting Nay: N/A

Abstaining: N/A
Absent: George Stovall

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to discuss, on motion by Glenn Roycroft, seconded by David Lusk and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned by General Consent.

Chairman

Date

NEXT MEETING: January 26th, 2022 at 7:00pm- Third Floor Board Meeting Room