

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2019

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 8th day of January 2019, in the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Economic Development Authority Members Present:

Mr. Wesley Edwards, Chairman
Ms. Stella Rohde, Vice Chairwoman
Mr. John H. "Jack" Tarr
Mr. Andy Mason
Ms. Iravon Ashby-Hope

Economic Development Authority Members Absent:

Mr. Calvert "Ace" Seybolt, Treasurer
Mr. Robert Bloxom

Others Present:

Mr. Paul Muhly, BOS
Mr. Thomas Johnson, ESCC
Mr. Jerry Cronin, ODU
Mr. Steve Goad, ODU
Ms. Julie Bellamy, Recording Secretary

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a 5 of 7 member quorum, the meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m.

2. GUEST SPEAKER

TJ introduced Jerry Cronin stating they met at GMU while pursuing the GO Virginia grant. From ODU Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship, taking Hampton Roads initiative and expand to rural areas of the state through Regional Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Development (REED), the new initiative.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A. No public attended.

4. MINUTES

A. December 11, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Tarr and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope to accept the minutes from the December 11, 2018 meeting as presented. The motion carried with unanimous in favor.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

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A. There was no report as Treasurer Calvert Seybolt was not in attendance.

6. INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

- A. Chairman Edwards gave report on his actions prior to the minutes being accepted.
- i. He spoke with Mike Mason and the library will not be able to take the \$2M Bond allotment yet as the deed has not been prepared to date.
 - ii. 8. B. He asked about the lead Julie Bellamy reported during a staff report in the December meeting. She responded she had nothing to report and agreed to Chairman Edwards request to follow up.
 - iii. 9. B. Mr. Edwards reported Mike Mason took offense and stated in an e-mail that Mr. Mason had never told Mr. Edwards that Jack Tarr had the bid. Note that it will have to be rebid because of age. Mr. Tarr added he never bid the amount quoted by Mr. Edwards of \$64,000 budgeted.
- B. Ms. Rohde reported:
- i. Ace Seybolt asked her to ask about Coastal Ag Transport situation. There may be an opportunity to buy back the property.
 - ii. The power washing company lead may be making an offer letter shortly with the check and offer made out specifically to the EDA.
- C. Mr. Muhly mentioned:
- i. EDA records in Chairman Edward's home and suggested they be kept on County property. Julie Bellamy mentioned Chris Guvernator offered to scan the documents if they were delivered to him.
 - ii. Three years was way too long for a company to be required to build. It was requested the Covenants be brought to the next meeting and it be added to the February agenda.
- D. Mr. Tarr had nothing to add.
- E. Mr. Mason asked for follow up from the joint EDA/JIDA meeting in December.
- F. Ms. Ashby-Hope had nothing to report.

7. STAFF REPORT

- A. Ms. Bellamy passed around the before and after photos of the clearing for Rocket Lab at the WRP.
- B. She added she had approached ANEC for a cost to run streetlights at the WRP.

8. MARKETING STRATEGIES

- A. Ms. Ashby-Hope to follow up with Ben Fox on photos delivered in 2018.

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. OTHER MATTERS

- A. ANPDC Requested to bring a speaker Troy Hartley to the EDA/JIDA spring meeting as a guest. All in attendance agreed it would be appropriate.
- B. Mr. Edwards asked for an update from Mr. Muhly on sewer upgrade/extension.

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- C. Mr. Edwards added 350 new chicken houses = additional tax base was mentioned to the County Administrator and Mike Mason responded that most of that money was going to fund EMS.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Economic Development Authority meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Mason and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, to adjourn the Economic Development Authority meeting at 11:12 a.m. All were in favor.


Ms. Stella Rohde, Chairperson


Recording Secretary