

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2017

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 14th day February 2017, 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. John LeCato, Chairman
Mr. Calvert Seybolt, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wesley Edwards, Treasurer
Ms. Ira Ashby-Hope
Mr. C. Ray Davis
Ms. Stella Rohde

Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Bloxom

Others Present:

Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Planner
Mr. Paul Muhly, Board of Supervisors' Liaison, District 4
Mr. Harrison Phillips, Board of Supervisors' Liaison, District 5
Ms. Cela Burge, County Attorney

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman LeCato opened the floor for the public comment period.

No one signed up or requested to speak.

3. MINUTES

A. January 17, 2017

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Rohde, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the January 17, 2017 minutes.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Elect Secretary

Members discussed that the County Attorney has always been the Secretary for this board; however, that person may designate the work to someone else.

The EDA agree that since the County currently has an interim County Administrator, they would like to discuss with him and have him choose who will sit as Secretary. Chairman LeCato will speak with Mike Mason.

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B. Discussion of Executive Director as outlined in the by-laws

An in depth discussion was held related to the Executive Director, legal representation and other items entered into the EDA budget. Some members expressed their discontent about items being added to the budget without their consent. Discussion ensued.

It was of general consensus to table this matter until a later date; however, no formal motion was made and seconded.

C. National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) Trade Show – Regional Forum Information

The Trade Show will be held on September 7, 2017, in Morristown, New Jersey. Discussion ensued related to what staff members should attend.

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to send representatives to send a representative to the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) Trade Show; expenses shall not to exceed \$1, 000.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Survey of Industrial Park

The EDA discussed old records related to ownership of the property and the importance of having the land surveyed, the main reason being for the sale of property.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Edwards reported that as of February 14, 2017, the balance of the EDA account is \$69,473.28.

On a motion made by Mr. Seybolt and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

A. Ms. Rohde

Ms. Rohde reported that she did not get an estimate for the billboard, but she intended to.

B. Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards reported that he and Mr. Mason are working on the webpage. Discussion ensued related to pictures.

Mr. Edwards expressed concern that the EDA has been out of sync with the by-laws as the EDA by-laws state that elections are to be held at the beginning of the fiscal year which is July 1.

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C. Mr. Seybolt

Mr. Seybolt reported that he attended the poverty meeting at the Workforce Development Center. He also reported that 53% of senators/delegates are not born in Virginia and therefore are not familiar with many areas of the state. A report was also given on the drug epidemic.

D. Mr. Davis

Mr. Davis also attended the poverty meeting and found it to be an instance of reporting a significant number of statistics, which demonstrated dire straits. Mr. Davis expressed concern that it was never linked together to find the underlying cause.

E. Ms. Ashby-Hope

Ms. Ashby- Hope had nothing to report.

F. Chairman LeCato

Chairman LeCato reported that he had researched documents and spoke his predecessor after he found a lease from 2003 with Wells Fargo, located in Minnesota, between County and Assessor related to rent and leasing.

He also found an agreement between Blue Crab Bay and the County related to timber cutting, he will take a copy of this document to the new owner.

Chairman LeCato will request for the County Attorney to review both of these documents. Discussion ensued.

8. STAFF REPORT

Members requested that staff invite the following to its March meeting:

- Kauffman & Knowles;
- Airport Manager and Airport Engineers speak with the engineers about tree cutting;

The EDA would also like to discuss joint meeting (with Northampton IDA) participation at its next meeting.

Chairman LeCato requested Ms. Burge, County Attorney and Mr. Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development, also attend the March meeting.

9. MARKETING STRATEGIES

Discussion related to Marketing Strategies was held under 4.C. National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) Trade Show – Regional Forum Information

10. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

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11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Economic Development Authority meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Seybolt and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Economic Development Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman

Jessica L. Taylor, Recording Secretary