

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 17th day of July 2018, 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. Calvert Seybolt, Treasurer
Mr. Robert Bloxom
Mr. Andy Mason
Mr. C. Ray Davis
Ms. Iravon Ashby-Hope

Economic Development Authority Members Absent:

Others Present:

Mr. Paul Muhly, BOS
Ms. Barbara Haxter, Airport Manager
Ms. Julie Wheatley, Recording Secretary

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll call was held and there being a 6 of 7 member quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. Ms. Stella Rohde joined at 9:19 pm. Mr. Seybolt left the meeting at 9:47 am.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A. There was no public in attendance.

3. MINUTES

A. June 19, 2018

On a motion made by Mr. Bloxom and seconded by Mr. Mason to approve the minutes as presented. Economic Development Authority voted unanimously to approve the June 19, 2018 minutes.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Treasurer Calvert Seybolt stated that he had received the Suntrust Statement ending June 30, 2018, there was \$84,249.84 in the bank. The drawdown for the 4th Quarter of FY18 and 1st Quarter of FY19 will be requested.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS (Item 6 on Agenda)

A. Mr. Paul Muhly

Mr. Muhly stated he had nothing to report at this time.

B. Mr. Andy Mason

Mr. Mason stated he had nothing to report at this time.

C. Mr. Calvert Seybolt

Mr. Calvert Seybolt reported 100% occupancy for July 4th on Chincoteague. Kudos were expressed by Mr. Mason and others as to the success of tourism and marketing efforts on Chincoteague.

D. Mr. C. Ray Davis

Mr. Davis stated he had nothing to report at this time.

E. Ms. Iravon Ashby-Hope

Ms. Ashby-Hope mentioned she continued to take photographs. Mr. Edwards added the Accomack County website needs a caption or script to accompany photos.

F. Mr. Rob Bloxom

Mr. Bloxom stated he had nothing to report at this time. Mr. Edwards asked about the anchorage near Cape Charles. Extensive discussion ensued. Mr. Edwards asked about the future of the railroad. Mr. Bloxom stated an upgrade was planned to Hallwood. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bloxom later brought up the proposed sanitation district upgrades which could possibly take the sewer responsibilities from Accomack County. Discussion surrounding the benefits of infrastructure to economic development ensued.

G. Ms. Stella Rohde

Ms. Rohde followed up on Mr. Derrick Colona, stating the prospective tenant with a power washing business remains interested.

H. Mr. Wes Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated he had nothing to report at this time.

6. STAFF REPORT

A. Sawmill Letter of Support from Truss Tech

No questions about sawmill letter. Ms. Wheatley added Truss Tech would use rail for delivery if it was available.

B. Airport Easement for obstruction removal

Barbara Haxter was asked to explain further. She mentioned a previous meeting with David Lumgair and referenced the EDA's approval at that juncture to move forward. She then reviewed the next steps. Mr. Edwards asked for specifics and Ms. Haxter stated they were not defined as a survey had not been performed and appraiser had not reviewed to date.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018

7. OTHER MATTERS

A. Ms. Wheatley mentioned MTSF, Inc. requested a Letter of Good standing with remaining balance. Mr. Edwards asked Ms. Wheatley to request from County Attorney Cela Burge about composing a letter.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ms. Rohde asked Mr. Muhly to report on progress on the fuel prices and property tax reductions. Mr. Muhly reported that BOS Chairman Crockett and County Administrator Mike Mason stated they would be willing to negotiate with a “big” individual user individually. In the discussion which followed, timing was discussed related to budget requests and former presentations on the subject.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Item 10 on Agenda)

A. Ms. Wheatley stated the street lights are not functional and that Ms. Elizabeth Lankford from Blue Crab Bay had complained. She also mentioned the sign was overgrown and there were no lights on the sign either. Mr. Edwards will ask Stewart Hall why the street lights were not on. As for the sign, Ms. Ashby-Hope stated the EDA had hired someone to landscape in the past. Mr. Edwards stated he would follow up and report at a later date.

B. Ms. Wheatley was asked about ownership of the parcel of land at the entrance. She reported the state owned the larger parcel zoned General Business and the strip owned by the EDA was zoned Heavy Industry. Mr. Edwards stated the EDA should seek control of the land and general consensus of the group was in agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Mason and seconded by Mr. Bloxom to compose a letter requesting ownership of the land from the state. Mr. Edwards to speak with County Attorney Cela Burge about composing the letter. Ms. Wheatley to forward her research to Ms. Burge. Ms. Rohde asked to see a copy of the letter.

10. OTHER MATTERS

A. Ms. Ashby-Hope will follow up on the taking of her Oath. Mr. Seybold had left the meeting when this item was discussed.

B. Ms. Rohde requested a follow up on adjustments to the property tax on commercial aircraft with Mr. Muhly. Mr. Muhly stated BOS Robert Crocket and County Administrator Mike Mason advised him that incentives would be addressed on an individual basis. Discussion followed included missed opportunities related to the current situation. After much discussion, Mr. Muhly asked the EDA send a letter to the BOS requesting a change. Mr. Bloxom asked if presentation to the BOS could supplement the letter which would request being put on the August 15, 2018 agenda. The proposed request was partially defined as zero personal property taxes and to conform to state tax law related to aircraft. Mr. Bloxom to take action.

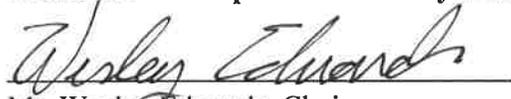
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018

11. NEXT MEETING

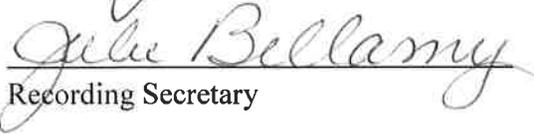
The next regular Economic Development Authority meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Bloxom and seconded by Mr. Davis, to adjourn the Economic Development Authority meeting at 10:29 a.m. All were in favor.



Mr. Wesley Edwards, Chairman



Recording Secretary