

Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023
20 Doyle Street, Toccoa, GA

Attending: Brian Akin, David Austin, Dennis Bell, Savonda Turner, Janney Sanders, Dave Stancil, Tammy Rauch, Julie Paysen, Christian Hamilton, Brittany Ivey and Lois Hylton.

Chairman Brian Akin called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Bell opened in prayer. Akin led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the confidentiality & conflict of interest statement.

Akin asked for a motion to approve the agenda, [Turner:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion was made to approve the January 18, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, [Austin:Turner]. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion was made to approve the January financials as presented, [Bell:Turner]. All in favor; none opposed.

Board Action Items:

A motion was made to renew SCDA's mowing contract with RLP Investments, [Bell:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to set up SCDA emails through google for \$3/month for our board members that do not already have a County or City email they utilize for SCDA business, [Bell:Turner]. All in favor; none opposed.

Program Updates/Reports:

Attraction: We are dropping Project Atlantic, Avacado & Chapstick. Project Castle will be back in town in March. Project Grey Platinum is a new international project that we are completing an RFI for this week. Project Next is unable to secure a contract on property they are interested in on Big A Road. Project Power is still moving forward at Clary Connector.

Once they decide on their business name for their Toccoa location we will move them into existing industry. Project Ray is looking for 10-15k sf of industrial space. They are working with several communities looking for some space that will accommodate their needs. Paysen reported Project Real will be in town on April 18. Project Shark has been leasing the Old Castle property since 2015 and might finally move some of their business here. Ivey answered some questions for them about zoning, traffic and connected them to Hartwell Railroad to talk about utilizing one of their transloading facilities. Akin reported that Ivey, County and City officials did an excellent job answering questions at Project Sweet Tea's site visit. Ivey reported that we are one of the final three sites in Georgia. Project Welcome is still interested in finding a location that meets their needs on Big A Road. Ivey went to one of their locations in Seneca, SC.

Existing: US Senator Warnock's Aide, Katrina Cochran visited MWL, LLC, Sark Wire and met with several of our local officials in Toccoa. She plans on visiting our community at least once a quarter.

Product Development: Ivey shared that the County finally received their last draw of ARPA funds so they can process all sewer invoices moving forward without delay. Ivey shared that Carter & Sloope are over 60% done with the design and should be ready to start advertising for bids in March. Ivey will meet with them in a few weeks to finalize the process.

President's Report: Ivey shared Toccoa-SC Leadership Industry Day will be visiting Osborne Wood Products, Luftex & Meadowbrook Machine & Tool. Representative Clyde will be here Feb. 23. He will visit NGTC's Currahee Campus, have lunch at Ping's with County & City police officials, and then finish with industry tours at Trachte and Sark Wire.

Workforce Development: SCDA is sponsoring & recognizing WBL students of the month. Discovery Tour is March 17.

Recruitment: The Caterpillar building is back on the market for sale or lease. Ivey visited the building with the owner and an individual that might want to purchase the building.

Input from Others: Paysen reiterated that our community leaders have to show a unified front on showcasing the positive effects of ushering in more industry and housing developments. Christian Hamilton reported that the County is actively working on updating their land use ordinances and will have them ready and implemented before the next fiscal year. Tammy Rauch reported that the job simulator Be Pro, Be Proud will be at the high school on March 13 when the CTAE department hosts their job fair. President Ivey is scheduled to man a booth that day.

Executive Session:

A motion was made at 8:53 a.m. to enter Executive Session, [Austin:Turner] All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 9:12a.m., [Bell:Turner]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to exit regular Session at 9:20 a.m., [Bell:Austin]. All in favor, none opposed.

Submitted By:

Attested By:

Brian Akin, Chairman

Brittany W. Ivey, President