

Stephens County Development Authority

Board Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2022

20 Doyle Street, Toccoa, GA

Attending: James Addison, Brian Akin, Savonda Turner, Chuck Wright, Janney Sanders, Phyllis Ayers, Julie Paysen, Jeremy Spradlin, Chris Rickman, Tara Simmons, Brittany Ivey and Lois Hylton.

Chairman Brian Akin called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Chuck Wright prayed. Akin led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the confidentiality & conflict of interest statement.

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

Motion was made to approve the March 16, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes, [Turner:Addison]. All in favor; none opposed.

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

Board Action Items:

Ivey reported now that we moved, we need to hire an IT professional. Quick Technologies provided a quote to enter into a monthly contract to take over services. Mrs. Ayers said she would check with Quick Technologies to see if they would add SCDA under the County's existing contract with them. The board authorized President Ivey to move forward with the needed audio visual for the conference room. A budget of \$3,000 was agreed upon.

Ivey shared quotes for overhead lighting for the conference room, disposing of old laptops and documents.

A motion was made to sign a limited use permit with the The Pointe Church for use of lots 24 & 25 in Hayestone Brady Business Park to film a music video with their youth choir, [Turner:Addison]. All in favor; none opposed.

The board consented to purchase a half page ad from the Toccoa Record at half price for their upcoming Progress section.

Ivey shared two local pest control quotes. The board consent was to move forward with Arrow Pest Control.

Program Updates/Reports:

Attraction: Ivey reported that we still have 12 active projects. Project Castle has started surveys on Lots 3 & 4. She reported that Project Centre is still working on securing a partner. Project QSR is looking to close by the middle of May.

Existing Industry: ASI came by for an update on our efforts to bring workforce housing to Stephens County. Ivey shared industry wages and jobs currently available in Stephens County. The Chamber & SCDA are working on getting a fact document out to the community. Ivey reported that Congressman Clyde will be visiting Maple Ridge Products and Sage.

Product Development: Brittany encourages everyone to take a copy of Georgia Trend where Toccoa is featured. SCDA shared the Chamber of Commerce's new community maps that SCDA has an ad in. SCDA is still working with DCA on the grant request for sewage infrastructure that we need to serve Lots 24 and 25. Chairman Akin thanked the County Commission for their help with that. Phyllis Ayers said that the funds they allocated for this have to be spent by December of 2026. President Ivey will try to narrow the timeline down so the County has a better idea when this will all transpire.

President's Report:

Apartment renovations are ongoing. Sark Wire is set to move two employees in at \$1,800/month as soon as it is done.

Derrick Addison had his crew clean out a clogged gutter and would not take any money. SCDA will purchase four \$25 gift cards from them to give out as a "thank you" for their help. President Ivey reported that SCDA still gets great feedback from the WBL student of the month. She also reported that Ms. Paysen and her were a part of the Employability Skills Training program at the High School focusing on customer service and positively promoting our community.

Ivey reported that Ms. Paysen and her were a part of the Employability Skills Training program at the High School focusing on customer service and positively promoting our community.

Input from Others:

Phyllis Ayers reported that President Ivey and she have been assigned a part of the regional comprehensive plan. Ayers reported on a meeting they have with GDOT to discuss the intersection at Memorial Drive. Julie Paysen shared that 'The Mulligan' is showing across the country and promoting our community. The Chamber's Town Hall meeting is scheduled for Monday, annual golf tournament will be Tuesday, May 11th, and their annual meeting will be May 17th.

Ivey reminded everyone the next Board Meeting will be May 11 due to conflicting schedules.

A motion was made to enter Executive Session at 8:32 a.m. to discuss the future acquisition, sale or lease of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (4), [Turner:Wright]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to adjourn Executive Session at 8:54 a.m. [Wright:Turner]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:55 a.m. [Addison:Wright]. All in favor; none opposed.

Submitted By:

Attested By:

Brian Akin, Chairman

Brittany W. Ivey, President