

Board Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2023
20 Doyle Street, Toccoa, GA

Attending: Brian Akin, David Austin, Lisa Lawson, Janney Sanders, Savonda Turner, Christian Hamilton, Samantha Rickman, Kevin McCraney, Brittany Ivey (via teleconference) and Lois Hylton.

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

Akin opened with prayer, led the Pledge of Allegiance & read the confidentiality & conflict of interest statement.

Motion was made to approve the agenda. [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion was made to approve the June 21, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, [Lawson:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion was made to approve the June financials as presented, [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor, none opposed.

Board Action Items:

Akin welcomed new Board member, Lisa Lawson & recognized Savonda Turner for her service on SCDA Board.

Motion was made to name Lisa Lawson board secretary, [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor, none opposed.

Motion was made to authorize the Chairman to sign a Laydown Yard Lease Agreement with Georgia Power Company contingent on changes Janney Sanders proposed being made, [Lawson:Austin]. All in favor, none opposed.

Program Updates/Reports:

Attraction: Ivey shared Project Bras is a large project looking for acreage that can be served by rail. Ivey connected the project to Hartwell Rail to answer questions about the cost of getting rail to a site on Hayes Road. Project ECO3 has hired an environmental engineer to answer questions the city is requiring before granting them a conditional use permit.

Existing Industry: Synthetex is looking for a new space to lease. Fieldale is looking for warehouse space.

Product Development: We submitted our grant application for the rural workforce housing initiative to finish the lift station at the Bypass & Mize Road. Awards will be announced in September.

President's Report:

Existing Industry: Blue Ridge Products, ASI and Maple Ridge Products met with Victory Homes to discuss employing men in their final 6 months of their rehabilitation program.

Workforce Development: Ivey will be attending UGA's Workforce Conference.

Input from Others:

Christian reported that the Public Hearing on millage rates will be Tuesday. Austin reported that city has reduced their millage rate to 5.2.

Executive Session:

A motion was made at 8:20 a.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss or deliberate on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (6), [Lawson:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to adjourn Executive Session at 8:27 a.m., [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:28 a.m., [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor; none opposed.

Submitted By:

Attested By:

Brian Akin, Chairman

Brittany W. Ivey, President