

Board Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2023
20 Doyle Street, Toccoa, GA

Attending: Brian Akin, David Austin, Dennis Bell, Lisa Lawson, Rick Phillips, Janney Sanders, Kevin McCraney, Christian Hamilton, Julie Paysen, Jessica Waters, Brittany Ivey, & Lois Hylton

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

Janney Sanders prayed and Akin led the Pledge of Allegiance & read the confidentiality & conflict of interest statement.

Motion was made to approve the agenda with the addition four board items, [Phillips:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion was made to approve the September 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes, [Austin:Phillips]. All in favor; none opposed.

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

Board Action Items: A motion was made to adopt the bond resolution for Project Castle (SungEel HiTech) and authorize officers to sign all bond documentation & the buyout agreement, [Phillips:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to authorize officers to sign all OneGeorgia Rural Housing Initiative Grant acceptance documentation, [Phillips: Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to authorize opening a new bank account to house all public & grant funds for the Rural Housing Initiative grant and make Phillips & Ivey the signers on the account, [Bell:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to move the November board meeting to November 29, [Austin:Bell]. All in favor; none opposed.

Program Updates/Reports:

Attraction: Ivey reported she is working on an RFI for **Project Wayfarer**. Eight states are under consideration for this potential project & we are one of 3 communities in Georgia asked to submit. **Project Pharma** is meeting with contractors.

Existing: Ivey shared that we were able to provide our first 8th grade industry tour. This group toured Nifco, Sark Wire, ASI, MWL & Patterson Pump. Ivey & Waters reported that students asked wonderful questions and were very attentive.

Product Development: Wilcorp has completed the installation of the Sewer infrastructure at Hayestone Brady. Ivey has been in touch with Carter & Sloope to request invoices so hopefully we can close this grant out by the year's end.

Presidents Report:

Existing: Ivey reported that we continue to receive great feedback from our WBL Student of the Month Presentations. Waters shared that those stories receive more hits for WNEG than the majority of their reporting.

Workforce: Ivey shared that Industry Day is tomorrow for this year's T-SC Leadership Class. They will visit PTL, MWL, ASI & Nifco. SCDA has been invited to an Advisory Round Table Meeting at NGTC on November 16.

Recruit New Industry: The JDA Presentation was well attended. There were 21 State Project Managers present and most of them are new hires. Ivey shared she has had many follow ups, particularly about our available buildings.

Input for Others: Hamilton reported that County has a meeting this afternoon to discuss properties currently owned by the County. Paysen reported on Project Hospitality. Ivey shared we are still looking for a firm to conduct a feasibility study. Paysen shared that the Annual Awards Celebration, Town Hall Meeting, Chicken Que, and Currahee Military Weekend were all well attended and successful events. The Chamber is now focusing on the Christmas parade.

Executive Session:

A motion was made at 8:38 a.m. to enter Executive Session for discussion of future acquisition, sale or lease of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (4) [Phillips:Austin] All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to exit Executive session at 8:55 a.m., [Bell:Austin]. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 a.m., [Austin:Lawson]. All in favor; none opposed.

Submitted By:

Attested By:

Brian Akin, Chairman

Brittany W. Ivey, President