

## COLUMBIA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Minutes of the IDA Board of Directors meeting held at Lake Shore Hospital Authority. The meeting was held on October 6, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. and Chair Suzanne Norris was presiding. A quorum was present.

**Directors present:** Suzanne Norris, Donna Brown, Dr. Charles Hall, Gus Rentz, Marc Vann, and Jeff Simmons

**Directors absent:** Carlton Jones

**Staff present:** Jim Poole, Gina Reynolds

**Visitors present:** Craig Womer  
Stew Lilker

**Public comment: Notice was read into the record by Chair, Suzanne Norris.** *“The Columbia County IDA will hear any citizen who wishes to address the Board, on a one time basis, pertaining to a relevant topic. If the Board wishes to hear more about the topic, that topic will be scheduled for a future Board meeting. Each speaker is limited to three minutes and the time dedicated to this topic will not exceed twenty minutes.”*

Craig Womer addressed the IDA Board. He asked about the status of the website. He was told it would be functional in October. He also suggested that the IDA research how economic development is being done in other parts of the county.

**Approval of minutes: Motion** by Marc Vann **Second** by Dr. Charles Hall to accept the minutes of the IDA Board meeting held on September 1, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Acceptance of financial report:** The IDA Board accepted the financials as presented for the month ending August 2010.

### **Executive Director’s Report: Jim Poole**

- Tax Abatement - the County will provide recommendations by October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Met with City Manager Wendell Johnson and Grayson Cason about Target tax abatement. Mr. Cason was City Manager at time of agreement with Target.
- Met with Enterprise Florida and a local company with an interest in international import and export.
- Met with a business interesting in locating to community. Did not meet criteria for incentives but would add jobs and tax base.
- Local group requested a tour of intermodal logistics center site. Plum Creek set up the tour and IDA staff participated.
- Rural Issues Working Group – Shared with group that information about three RACEC areas was included in meetings in Washington D.C.
- Made presentation to Parkview Baptist Church.
- Washington D.C. – Chair Suzanne Norris and Jim Poole met with Senator Nelson about projects and funding opportunities.

### **Deputy Director’s Report: Gina Reynolds**

- Washington D.C. – County Commissioner Ron Williams, County Manager Dale Williams and Gina Reynolds met with Congresswoman Corrine Brown about a project in Columbia County. The IDA and County officials also met with Congressman Crenshaw and Senator Lemieux’s office.
- Attended SE Regional Logistics Exchange in Atlanta. Hosted by US Dept of Commerce and US Dept of Transportation. Purpose to obtain input for National Transportation Plan. Spoke to representatives of US Dept of Commerce which led to additional meeting in Washington D.C. to discuss projects in Columbia County, region and state. U.S. Dept of Commerce requested future meetings.

- Participated in freight analysis meeting to review the study. Study is aligned with the Florida Chamber Foundation's six pillars. The alignment is beneficial as we implement the Go-To-Market because the relation between the Go-To-Market plan, the freight analysis and six pillars is clearly defined.
- Attending Future of Florida Forum. Freight analysis will be released during forum. Will also participate in one of the caucus meetings and the International Business Committee. Will hear from Florida Chamber endorsed candidates. Steve Forbes will be keynote speaker.
- Successful in setting up meeting between 2060FTP representatives and Banner Center. Arranged for meeting at DOT District 2 office and District Secretary Mosley attended.

**Committee Updates:**

**Utility:** No updates reported.

**Rudder Team:** County Planner Brian Kepner and Property Appraiser Doyle Crews attended meeting to discuss tax abatement, amendment 4, flow of planning and property values. Glenn Hunter committed to share the impact of these issues with the school system. Terry Huddleston, CHS Principal gave an update on CHS activity including the Logistics and Distribution Career Academy. The website will be reviewed by the Rudder Team in approximately a month. A pilot program for the Water Resource Banner Center was suggested at the intermodal logistics center.

**Old Business:**

IDA Board discussed the workshop with the County Commission held on October 5th. IDA Board asked staff to obtain tax abatement procedures from comparable counties. The IDA will recommend a process to ensure a fair process. Jim Poole to meet with each IDA Board Member for input.

**New Business:**

Completed identification of wetlands for RACEC Catalyst site. **Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Dr. Charles Hall for Gina Reynolds to attend economic development training in Kansas City, MO in November. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Other Discussion:** No other discussion.

**Topics for future meetings:**

**Next Meeting** – 8:30 a.m., November 10, 2010. Location: CHS Career Center

**Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes prepared by:**

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Gina Reynolds, Deputy Director/Secretary