

## COLUMBIA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

162 S. Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida 32025

Phone 386/752-3690 Fax 755-7744

Minutes of the IDA Board of Directors meeting held at Lake Shore Hospital Authority. The meeting was held on November 4, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. and Vice-Chair Suzanne Norris was presiding. A quorum was present.

**Directors present:** Suzanne Norris, Carlton Jones, Jeff Simmons, Marc Vann

\*Marc Vann departed the meeting at 9:57 a.m. After departure, meeting was for informational purposes only, no board action was taken.

**Directors absent:** Mike Millikin, Donna Brown, Gus Rentz

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

**Visitors present:** Stew Lilker, Craig Womer

**Public comment: Notice was read into the record by Vice-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."

Mr. Stew Lilker addressed the IDA Board. He discussed the need for a regional utility and provided a copy of a proposal he wrote for a regional utility, referred to as "Gateway Regional Utility Authority". Mr. Lilker also provided a copy of a response from County Manager Dale Williams dated April 6, 2007. A copy of both documents are attached.

**Approval of minutes: Motion** by Marc Vann **Second** by Jeff Simmons to accept the minutes of the IDA Board meeting held on October 7, 2009. **Motion carried unanimously**

**Acceptance of financial report:** The IDA Board accepted the financials for the month ending October 2009 as presented.

**Approval of amended budget for fiscal year 2009/2010: Motion** by Carlton Jones **Second** by Marc Vann to accept the amended budget as presented **Motion carried unanimously**. Budget amended due to the change in operations. Overall budget amount did not change, only internal line items.

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

- Attended Super Region Roundtable
- Project Update: Green Vision-working out issues on property. Tentative closing for November 5, 2009.
- Catalyst Site/Intermodal Logistics Center - Presenting County land use change to Commission on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Go To Market Columbia: 5<sup>th</sup> session completed. Next session will be a strategic planning session. It is important for us to have as much in attendance as possible as we go through this part of the plan. The next session will be scheduled at the college to provide adequate room for a round table discussion of the participants.
- Speculative Prison to House Illegal Aliens: Federal environmental Impact Study is complete. Citizen Input November 17, 2009 Columbia County Public Library. You may also write comments to:  
Mr. Richard A. Cohn, Chief Capacity Planning and Site Selection Branch Federal Bureau of Prisons  
320 First Street NW Washington DC 20534 Or to: Mr. Isaac Gaston Site Selection Specialist Federal Bureau of Prisons 320 First Street NW Washington DC 20534
  - Comments must be received by December 14, 2009. This is the 45 day window from October 30, 2009.
  - Company is now proposing funding through a Real Estate Investment Trust. Previous funding was through a government backed bond.

- Contractor for project would be Hale-Mills Construction Company. Operator of facility would be Community Education Centers Inc. Contracts are for 4 years with 3 possible 2 year renewals.
- Board member Marc Vann met with Mike Harling w/Municipal Capital Markets along with Gina Reynolds and Jim Poole.

North Florida Economic Development Partnership Meeting: Suwannee County requested authorization to move their catalyst site from the U S 90 West location to one on U S 129 North of Live Oak. A presentation was made by the County Coordinator for Suwannee County and the City Manager of Live Oak. The approval would require new MOA approval from the 14 counties and 6 municipalities that make up the Partnership.

Jim Poole is the Chair of the Rural Issues Working Group. Chaired a conference call about a co-op advertising program Enterprise Florida is offering. IDA Board committed to participate in the plan.

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

Attended Florida Chamber/Florida Chamber Foundation/FACP Conference/FACP Board Meeting

- Rather than having several agendas from partners, the Florida Chamber would like to develop one agenda for Florida.
- Agriculture, Tourism and Construction is the base for Florida's economic development system but now it is time to build on that base.
- Florida Chamber holding forums around the state and will focus on Florida's 6 economic drivers: Talent and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Government Systems, Quality of Life. The IDA is hosting 1 of the 10 forums within the state.
  - Florida is competing globally, not just competing with neighboring communities and/or states. Prosperity of businesses depends on getting education right. Communities need to invest in the chain of education – this is our future workforce.
  - Economic Development and Businesses should be involved in developing supply chain. Businesses will be the ultimate user.
  - STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Statewide council recently created to strengthen these skills of Florida's students as a way to address the increasing demand for jobs requiring strong foundations in these areas. The idea for the STEM Council was originated by Enterprise Florida in response to gaps identified by Florida businesses in the Roadmap to Florida's Future, the state economic development plan.

Gina Reynolds is a member of the Florida Chamber Foundation Freight Analysis Steering Committee. Looking at freight to, from, through and within Florida 10 and 50 years out. Can be used as a tool for economic development.

### **Old Business:**

**Policies and Procedures** – Vice-Chair, Suzanne Norris, meet with County Manager Dale Williams, Jim Poole and Gina Reynolds to discuss policies and procedures for the IDA.

**General Liability and Director & Officer Insurance: Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Carlton Jones to allow the IDA Board Chair to obtain a formal quote for General Liability and Director & Officer Insurance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**BOCC/IDA Workshop** – IDA Board was pleased with the joint meeting with the County Commissioners. Future meetings will be scheduled.

**Rudder Team** – IDA Board Vice-Chair Suzanne Norris attends weekly conference call with Fairfield Index, Jim Poole and Gina Reynolds. Mrs. Norris asked Don Upton to provide best practices for confidentiality.

**Approve contract for copier: Motion** by Carlton Jones **Second** by Marc Vann to approve a 48 month contract for \$100.23 with MOS. **Motion carried unanimously.**

IDA Board discussed adding Workforce, Utilities and Santé Fe Soil & Water Conservation to the list of committees they would like to have involvement. IDA Board will provide a list of committees/boards in which they are currently involved.

Speculative Prison: Private company responded to Bureau of Prison RFP to house criminal aliens. IDA Board requested staff to research company(ies) involved and forward data to Board members.

**New Business:**

**Approval of travel for EFI Conference:** **Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Marc Vann to approve administrative leave for Jim Poole and Gina Reynolds to attend the Enterprise Florida Conference November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of cell phones:** **Motion** by Marc Vann **Second** by Carlton Jones to approve cell phones service for staff in the amount of \$180 per month. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of Blackberry Server Software:** **Motion** by Marc Vann **Second** by Jeff Simmons to approve the purchase of the Blackberry server software in the amount of \$499. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of services for firewall for server:** **Motion** by Carlton Jones **Second** by Jeff Simmons to approve annual services for a firewall for the IDA server in the amount of \$265.50. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Next Meeting** – 8:30 a.m., December 2, 2009. Location TBD

**Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes prepared by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Gina Reynolds, Secretary**