

## 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 September 2, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. and Chair Donna Brown was presiding. A quorum was present.

**Directors present:** Donna Brown, Carlton Jones, Suzanne Norris, Gus Rentz, Jeff Simmons, Marc Vann., Mike Millikin

**Directors absent:** No directors absent

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

**Visitors present:** County Manager, Dale Williams  
Craig Womer

**Public comment: Notice was read into the record by Chair, Donna Brown.** “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.” No public comment.

**Approval of minutes: Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Suzanne Norris to accept the minutes of the IDA Board meeting held on August 5, 2009. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Acceptance of financial report: Motion** by Suzanne Norris **Second** by Carlton Jones to accept the financial report for the month ending August 31, 2009. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Future Structure of the IDA: County Manager, Dale Williams:**

- The County Commission believes the functions of the IDA staff are full time and believes now is the time to make a concerted effort toward economic development.
- The County Commission is looking at three options:
  1. Continue the IDA as a Dependent Taxing Authority and the IDA staff would remain employees of the IDA Board.
  2. The IDA would become a County Department reporting to the Board of County Commissioners.
  3. The IDA would become a County Department reporting to the County Manager
- If the IDA becomes a County Department there would be more oversight, but under current policy, would not be as effective. County policies would need to be amended.
- If the IDA becomes a County Department, the two IDA staff members would resign their positions with the IDA. The current Executive Director would become an employee of the County, but would be the only employee in this department at this time.
- Dale Williams offered the opportunity for the IDA Board to make a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners. Also suggested sending a letter to the Board of County Commissions stating their position about the future structure of the IDA. If no action is taken by the IDA Board, the IDA will default to a County Department.

### **Executive Director’s Report:**

**Old Business:** As requested by the IDA Board, a letter was sent to the County Commission supporting their previous decision in reference to the private prison.

**Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Carlton Jones to approve the budget amendment to move \$76,500 from the Reserve account to the Promotion and Advertising expense account. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Next Meeting** – 8:30 a.m., October 7, 2009 at the Lake Shore Hospital Authority

**Meeting adjourned.**

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