

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 March 3, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. and Chair Suzanne Norris was presiding. A quorum was present.

Directors present: Suzanne Norris, Carlton Jones, Gus Rentz and Marc Vann. Jeff Simmons arrived at 8:40 a.m.

Directors absent: Donna Brown, Dr. Charles Hall

Staff present: Jim Poole, Gina Reynolds

Visitors present: Terry Huddleston, CHS Principal
Craig Womer

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.”

No public comment was made.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Carlton Jones **Second** by Gus Rentz to accept the minutes of the IDA Board meeting held on February 4, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Acceptance of financial report: A letter was sent to County Manager Dale Williams noting the bookkeeping error of \$5257 made in the travel line item. The credit will be reported in the March financial statement. The IDA Board accepted the financials as presented for the month ending January 2010.

Presentation: Terry Huddleston, CHS Principal, gave a presentation on the Logistics and Supply Chain Management and Entrepreneurial Academies being developed at Columbia High School.

Executive Director’s Report: Jim Poole

- Cooperstown: While not an IDA project, we will play a support role as appropriate.
- Project Green Vision: Assisting company on locating funding opportunities.
- Project Fox: Looking into new market tax credits and establishing a TIF area.
- Broadband: North Florida Broadband Authority received a \$30 million grant to provide broadband access in RACEC area.
- Energy: Seeing more activity from companies focusing on wind, solar and biomass.

Deputy Director’s Report: Gina Reynolds

- March edition of Florida Trend Magazine featured inland port Plum Creek is developing in Columbia County.
 - Article stresses that global trade patterns are changing.
 - Panama canal expansion expected to be complete 2014
- Florida transportation system and development of inland ports critical for Florida to remain competitive. Reemphasizes importance of Freight Analysis. Summary of current findings of freight analysis will be released during International Days in April.
- Participating in first International Committee meeting during International Days.

Committee Updates:

Utility: Regional utility being discussed

Rudder Team: Sending thank you letter to Rudder Team and requesting them to continue to serve.

Old Business:

- **Go To Market Plan:** The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners approved the plan. Chair Suzanne Norris presented the plan to the City of Lake City, no comments or questions from City Council.

New Business:

- **Amendment 4 Resolution: Motion** by Jeff Simmons **Second** by Carlton Jones to adopt the Amendment 4 Resolution. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Tax Abatement: Motion** by Marc Vann **Second** by Gus Rentz to adopt the Tax Abatement Resolution. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- The Board of County Commissioners has scheduled a meeting with the IDA and the Chamber. Original date of May 11th has been rescheduled. The meeting will be held on May 13th at 10:00 a.m. and the location has not be determined. The Board requested staff to send a letter to the County to consider inviting the City to the joint meeting on May 13th.

Other Discussion:

- A tour of the Biotech Banner Center in Gainesville will be scheduled at a future date.
- Suzanne Norris and Jim Poole will be attending a Hospice conference in April and will be meeting with legislative delegation. Will take the opportunity to discuss Columbia County issues.
- Dr. Charles Hall, President of Lake City Community College has been appointed to the IDA Board.
- The IDA's under construction webpage should be operational soon.
- Last month the IDA authorized payment of the Lake Shore Hospital Authority invoice for use of the facility. LSHA changed their policy and there will not be a charge for the room.

Topics for future meetings:

- Banner Center for Logistics and Distribution

Next Meeting – 8:30 a.m., April 7, 2010. Location: Lake Shore Hospital Authority

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by: _____

Gina Reynolds, Deputy Director/Secretary