

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 April 7, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. and Vice Chair Donna Brown was presiding. A quorum was present.

Directors present: Donna Brown, Carlton Jones, Gus Rentz and Marc Vann, Jeff Simmons, Dr. Charles Hall

Directors absent: Suzanne Norris

Staff present: Jim Poole, Gina Reynolds

Visitors present: Connie Rollberg, Lake City Chamber of Commerce Representative
Stew Lilker

Public comment: Notice was read into the record by Vice 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.”

Mr. Stew Lilker addressed the IDA Board with the following comments/questions:

Does the board get back to people when they have questions?

Reminding the board about utility issues that were brought before the IDA previously, he asked how the utility study is coming along.

Mr. Lilker referred to minutes of the March 3, 2010 IDA Board meeting and specifically mentioning the acceptance of the financial report. The minutes state there was a bookkeeping error, but Mr. Lilker insist this was not an error. Larger font size for the minutes was requested.

Chair Norris has discussed standards of the school system. Mr. Lilker went to the Lake City-Columbia County Chamber for information on the schools and they did not have any information on the school system.

Go To Market is not a good name. The Go To Market slide show was a disappointment to him. The customer comes first should not be anything new.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Carlton Jones **Second** by Gus Rentz to accept the minutes of the IDA Board meeting held on March 3, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Presentation: Elaine Puri, Employ Florida Banner Center for Logistics and Distribution was scheduled to present but had to reschedule due to unforeseen matters.

Executive Director's Report: Jim Poole

- Florida Trend is listing us in the big bend region. We are trying to be moved to the northeast region.
- Representative Debbie Boyd has a bill in the House and Senator Charlie Dean has a bill in the Senate to establish an Enterprise Zone for catalyst sites. Representative Boyd requested attendance of supporters of the bill when she presented it to the committees. Several organizations were present in support, including the NFEDP (RACEC), Suwannee County Commissioner Wainwright, Suwannee County Economic Development Office, Madison County Commissioner Ellis, Madison County Economic Development Office, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise Florida, OTTED, Columbia County Commissioner Frisina, Columbia County IDA representatives. Representative Bembry was on the committee and spoke in support of the bill. The bill passed the committee unanimously.
- Rural Issues Working Group (RIWG) is addressing several legislative issues impacting economic development.
- Go To Market – This group is not doing a study. The Rudder Team will identify areas and help work toward a solution of issues relevant to economic development. Go To Market is for the community. Want

citizens to know that as a governmental agency, the IDA is focusing on customer service for businesses looking at Columbia County.

- Project Vulcan has been canceled.
- Participating in FDOT 2060 plan advisory committee.
- Project Green Vision – should have an announcement in approximately 90 days.
- Inland port and catalyst site – Ready to do boundary survey and wetland mitigation.

Deputy Director's Report: Gina Reynolds

- Commissioner Dupree requested assistance addressing proposed changes to the Florida Building Code. When meeting with legislators on other issues, explained how proposed change could impact rural areas.
- Represented Jim Poole at a Regional Planning Council meeting where FDOT gave a presentation on their 2060 plan.
 - Jim Poole is participating on one of the advisory committees for the FDOT 2060 plan.
 - Gina Reynolds is participating on the Florida Chamber Foundation trade flow study. Results from the study will be used in the FDOT 2060 plan.
- Met with FDOT Assistant Secretary and FDOT Transportation Development Administrator to review marketing plan and current projects.
- Met with US Dept of Commerce and Enterprise Florida International Trade representatives to update them on marketing plan and current projects. Also discussed international opportunities for local businesses, with a focus on manufacturers.
- STEMflorida released results of Business Roundtable meetings. CHS Principal, Terry Huddleston, LCCC Public Service Training Director, Abe Pallas and Shawn Justice with PBSJ attended the STEMflorida Business Roundtable with Gina Reynolds. STEMflorida is developing a student internship and a teacher externship. Details will be shared when received.
- Participating in FEDC Young Professionals.
- Representing Jim Poole and Suzanne Norris at a NAIOP luncheon. Former Mayor of St. Pete Beach will speak about Amendment 4.
- Following an article in Florida Trend's March edition about the inland port in Columbia County, the IDA is in Florida Trend's April edition. Jim Poole is pictured and quoted about the local development climate.

Committee Updates:

Utility: Working on third party doing study on utility.

Rudder Team: Next Rudder Team meeting will be in May.

Old Business:

None to report

New Business:

- Due to time limitations, Marlin Feagle has requested to be relieved of serving as attorney of IDA.
- Marc Vann requested to send a letter supporting the County's decision to establish utilities in the County. It is imperative to have utilities and to continue to expand utilities if the community is going to continue to grow. Availability of infrastructure in the right areas is important for development. The Board asked for Jim Poole to prepare a letter and Suzanne Norris to review. The letter will be sent to the Board of County Commission and the City Council.

Other Discussion:

- Jeff Simmons requested an update on Rudder Team timeline.
- Jeff Simmons asked about Free Trade Zones. Discussion followed.
- Jeff Simmons asked if broadband grant could have a focus on Ellisville area since the County is establishing a utility.
- Regional utilities need to be on the agenda for the joint meeting with the County, IDA, City and Chamber. Need to consider including the Columbia County School Board in the near future.

Topics for future meetings:

- Banner Center for Logistics and Distribution and the USDA

Next Meeting – 8:30 a.m., May 5, 2010. Location: Lake Shore Hospital Authority

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by: _____
Gina Reynolds, Deputy Director/Secretary