



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – January 23, 2013

Center for Trade & Tourism
 1000 Business Boulevard
 Evans, GA 30809

Board Attendees (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*)) :

Mark Wills, Chairman	Stan Shepherd	Sonny McDowell
Doug Duncan, Vice-Chairman	Jean Garniewicz	David Duncan*
Rick Evans, Secretary-Treasurer	Phil Gaffney	

Staff (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*)) :

Douglas D. Batchelor, Legal Counsel
 Karen Eyink, Executive Assistant

Guests Present:

Adela Kelley, <i>GDEcD</i>	Barry Paschal, <i>Augusta Chronicle</i>
Thom Tuckey, <i>Alliance Ft. Gordon</i>	Jenna Martin, <i>Augusta Chronicle</i>
William Edwards, <i>GA Power</i>	Michael Rorick, <i>Citizen</i>

I. Call to Order & Welcome

Chairman Mark Wills called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and declared a quorum present.

II. Reading and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Wills asked the Board to review and approve the agenda for the January 23, 2013 DACC Board Meeting. Motion made by Stan Shepherd to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Jean Garniewicz. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Wills asked the Board to review and approve the minutes for the November 28, 2012 Board Meeting. Phil Gaffney mentioned a couple name corrections for guests Gary Simpson and Mike Welch on the November minutes. Motion made by Rick Evans to approve the minutes with the stated corrections. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. Financials – Rick Evans

From the Statement of Net Assets – December 31, 2012, Total Current Assets are \$640,017.84, includes Investment in the Horizon South Industrial Bldg. (Spec Bldg.) of \$298,333.34, \$327,693.71 in Checking/Savings and Total Liabilities of \$1079.43.

On the Statement of Activities Actual vs. Budget – Six Months Ended December 31, 2012, the DACC is on target for the remaining budget for fiscal year end June 30, 2013.

Doug Duncan made a motion to approve the December 31, 2012 financials. Phil Gaffney seconded the motion. Motion approved.

V. Chairman's Report – Mark Wills

Chairman Wills thanked Adela Kelley, GDEcD and William Edwards, GA Power for their assistance in the changes taking place. With the upcoming 2013 Masters, Chairman Wills asked the board for their help with the invitation list and their participation during Masters. The CVB will continue to participate in corporate housing with the DACC; the house rental has already been secured. The 2013 Augusta Showcase budget this year is \$18,000.

Chairman Wills mentioned that he has been appointed as a board member to serve on the SRSCRO Board of Directors representing the Development Authority, in lieu of Troy Post's vacant seat. Mr. Chris Noah has been appointed to replace Chairman Wills to represent the Columbia County Commission.

Chairman Wills asked Doug Duncan to chair the search committee to fill the executive director's position. The committee consists of Doug Duncan, Mark Wills, Stan Shepherd and Zack Daffin, former DACC Executive Director. Chair Duncan reported on the activity for the director's position, possibly to be filled by the end of March. Chairman Wills thanked Troy Post for his great effort upon leaving the Development Authority. Troy organized his office in detail by labeling files and kept everyone up to speed on various projects.

Chairman Wills mentioned George Duehring would be stepping down as board member for the Development Authority.

VI. Committee Reports – Mark Wills

Phil Gaffney, Chairman of the Existing Industry & Workforce Development committee mentioned Jean Garniewicz would serve on the committee along with Sonny McDowell. Chairman Gaffney reported that he followed up with GIW after DACC's November 28 board meeting at their facility. He mentioned ways in which the committee could be of support and assist GIW. In addition, Chairman Gaffney will be contacting Mike Hogan, Plant Manager of John Deere Commercial Products, to see how the DACC can assist with their needs as well. The next committee will tentatively meet on Friday, February 1, 2013.

Stan Shepherd, Chairman of the Business Recruitment and Incentive Programs committee mentioned that the committee should focus from a marketing standpoint especially during the first week of April. Chairman Shepherd said the DACC should contact Richard Harmon from Development Services, Adela Kelley and William Edwards on who to contact for potential Masters invitees, as well as information supplied from Troy Post.

Rick Evans, Chairman of the Retail Development Sub-Committee mentioned the committee would meet before the new executive director starts working for the DACC. The committee then would like to take the director to the County's Development Services Dept. to meet Richard Harmon and his staff. Chair Evans would like to schedule a retail committee meeting shortly.

Doug Duncan, Chairman of the Property Management committee mentioned two items, Horizon South Industrial Building (Spec Bldg.) - rent to own lease and the property on Industrial Blvd. that the county owns, no action to take until the new executive director starts.

VII. Economic Development – Mark Wills

Chairman Wills asked Adela Kelley, GDEcD and William Edwards, GA Power to give an update on economic development. Mrs. Kelley mentioned existing industry has been slow throughout the state, as far as expanding and capital investment. The state will probably see more recruitment projects instead of existing industry. Mr. Edwards agreed, new inquires are fairly strong but existing industry expansion have leveled off.

VIII. Old Business – Mark Wills

Chairman Wills asked Doug Batchelor to report on the retention pond. Mr. Batchelor mentioned total acreage is between 17-18 acres. In addition, there are drainage easements that come out of the Augusta Technical Campus into the property. Mr. Batchelor recommended the county have a plat prepared to use for legal description to show easements and then deed the land.

IX. New Business – Mark Wills

No new business at this time.

X. Calendar of Events – Mark Wills

The Development Authority's next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 7:30 a.m. at the Development Authority's office – Center for Trade & Tourism, 1000 Business Boulevard, Evans, GA. The meeting held in Conference Room A.

XI. Public Comment

Thom Tuckey, CSRA Alliance Ft. Gordon mentioned a recent press release concerning a Programmatic Environmental Assessment that could cut 4300 military personnel from Ft. Gordon by 2020. Mr. Tuckey does not think this will happen to Ft. Gordon based on cyber security.

William Edwards, GA Power mentioned after the board meeting he will be traveling to Atlanta for the Chamber's Leadership Columbia County Day. The GA Resource Center is hosting this event; topic includes economic development at the state level.

Adela Kelley, GDEcD asked if it is possible to be part of the Existing Industry and Retail Development committee; does the committee invite outside guests. Chairman Wills said yes and would be noted.

Michael Rorick, citizen of Columbia County mentioned an article in The Kiplinger Letter on the military. The article listed Southeast bases they were most concerned about, Columbia, SC and Columbus, GA.

XII. Closed Session – Mark Wills

Doug Duncan made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Stan Shepherd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sonny McDowell made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Doug Batchelor reported a personnel matter was discussed but no action was taken. Stan Shepherd made a motion to provide the Executive Assistant to the Development Authority of Columbia County a 2% merit increase based on the Chairman's recommendation for the 2013 pay cycle. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Wills adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:

Mark Wills, Chairman
Development Authority of Columbia County