



## **DACC BOARD MEETING MINUTES – October 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	Hugh Hollar*
Doug Duncan, Vice-Chairman	Jean Garniewicz	
Rick Evans, Secretary-Treasurer	Phil Gaffney	

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

Robbie Bennett, Executive Director  
Karen Eyink, Executive Assistant  
Douglas D. Batchelor, Legal Counsel

### **Guests Present:**

Ron Cross, <i>CC Commissioner</i>	Steve Crawford, <i>CC News-Times</i>
Thom Tuckey, <i>CSRA Alliance Ft. Gordon</i>	Michael Rorick, <i>Citizen</i>
Tammy Shepherd, <i>CC Chamber</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 October 23, 2013 DACC board meeting. Motion made by Phil Gaffney to approve the agenda. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Wills asked the Board to review and approve the minutes for the September 25, 2013 DACC board meeting. Motion made by Phil Gaffney to approve the minutes. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **IV. Financials – Rick Evans**

From the Statement of Net Assets – September 30, 2013, Total Assets are \$679,225.26 includes Investment in the Horizon South Industrial Bldg. (Spec Bldg.) of \$279,583.37. Total cash in Checking/Savings is \$394,346.69, Account Receivables \$4,973.34, Credit Due from West Lake Country Club \$321.86 and Total Liabilities of \$2,298.42.

In the Statement of Activities by Class – One Month Ended – September 30, 2013, total income of \$26,714.58 total expense \$22,977.45 and interest revenue \$128.15 for a net income of \$3,865.28.

Doug Duncan made a motion to approve the September 30, 2013 financials. Stan Shepherd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **V. Chairman's Report – Mark Wills**

Chairman Wills thanked Phil Gaffney for a successful Business Appreciation Luncheon that was held on October 15 at West Lake Country Club. The Executive Committee is working on a slate of officers for the upcoming 2014 year. In a few months, the board will vote on the nominations.

#### **VI. Committee Reports – Mark Wills**

Phil Gaffney, Chair of the Existing Business Development and Workforce Development Committee mentioned that the 1<sup>st</sup> Business Appreciation Luncheon had a reasonable turnout and West Lake Country Club did a fine job at catering the event. Moving forward to 2014 with additional business luncheons, the committee will improve upon attendance and add a Q&A session built into the event.

Rick Evans, Chair of the Retail Development Sub-Committee mentioned the committee met on Wednesday, October 16. Guest speaker was Bobby Meybohm; he gave an update on his property across from Wal-Mart in Grovetown.

Stan Shepherd, Chair of the Business Recruitment and Incentive Program Committee mentioned that Robbie is working on getting examples of RFPs (Request for Proposal) for the Development Authority's website.

Doug Duncan, Chair of the Property Development Committee reported the committee is waiting on a sign at the entrance at the Augusta Technical College – Grovetown Campus. Additional discussions included who's responsible for the maintenance at Horizon South Industrial Park.

#### **VII. Economic Development – Robbie Bennett**

Robbie attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary GEDA (Georgia Economic Development Association) Conference in Savannah on September 25. There were five counties, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Washington and Columbia County that hosted a regional dinner for state project managers. This was a good opportunity for local projects and trade for each county.

Robbie attended the IEDC (International Economic Development Council) 2013 Conference in Philadelphia, PA on October 6-9. Robbie mentioned that at the end of the conference, there was a 14-consultant panel with a question and answer session, one of the best conferences that Robbie has attended.

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The SRS CRO (Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization) has awarded a \$200K grant for county economic development entities in two ways. One is an infrastructure fund for economic development. The fund will be available to the DACC for site certification of property, for infrastructure improvements to properties to help projects or general environment studies. In 2014, an additional \$50K per year for five years will be available to use for special projects. More information on the grant will be forthcoming.

Additional items:

Robbie discussed the RFP and features that the Development Authority is looking at for the website. The business surveys are finalized and will be sent out.

**VIII. Old Business – Mark Wills**

None at this time noted.

**IX. New Business – Mark Wills**

None at this time noted.

**X. Calendar of Events – Mark Wills**

The next Development Authority board meeting will be held at the DACC's office. Dates for the November and December board meetings will be determined later.

**XI. Public Comment**

Commissioner Ron Cross mentioned the county is closing on the Rhodes Bldg. on Reagan Ronald Drive. Road construction on Washington Rd. and River Watch Parkway will start in 30-45 days. In addition, Mike Holliman has been appointed to serve as a board member for the Development Authority.

Tammy Shepherd, Executive Director of CC Chamber of Commerce gave an update on upcoming events and programs for the Chamber. For more information go to the Chamber's website at [www.columbiacountychamber.com](http://www.columbiacountychamber.com). In addition, Tammy mentioned that Columbia County will be featured in the January 2014 issue of GA Trend magazine.

Thom Tuckey, CSRA Alliance for Fort Gordon mentioned now that the government shutdown is over, Fort Gordon is back to last years sequester, which means they are still under restrictions on spending, repairs and maintenance. Thom is working on demographic data on military personnel that are leaving for Robbie; this information will be helpful in workforce discussions.

**XII. Closed Session – Mark Wills**

No closed session was noted.

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### **XIII. Adjournment**

Chairman Wills adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:

Robbie Bennett, Executive Director  
Development Authority of Columbia County