

UNAPPROVED

**Loudon County Economic Development Agency/
Joint Economic and Community Development
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Lenoir City Utilities Board
November 14th, 2019**

The following members were present: Mayor Buddy Bradshaw, Mayor Jeff Harris, Mayor Tony Aikens, Eddie Simpson, John Evans, Harold Duff, Bruce Giles, John Harrison, and Bob Elliott

Also present were: Loudon County Chamber President Rodney Grugin, LCUB Manager Shannon Littleton, LUB Manager Ty Ross, News Herald reporter Natalie McQuilkin, and LCEDA staff members Jack Qualls and Blair Patterson

Chairman Buddy Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 1:54 p.m.

Appointment of LCEDA Treasurer

Charlie Bettis acted as the LCEDA Treasurer and is no longer on the Board of Directors. The Treasurer sits on both the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. **Bob Elliott nominated John Evans as Loudon County Economic Development Agency Board of Directors Treasurer, seconded by Eddie Simpson. All approved.**

Appointment of LCEDA Vice-Chairman

John Evans was previously the Vice-Chair and has now been elected to Treasurer. **Eddie Simpson nominated Jeff Harris as Loudon County Economic Development Agency Board of Directors Vice-Chairman, seconded by Bruce Giles. All approved.**

Approval of the minutes from the September 12th, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting

The minutes were emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for their review. **John Evans made a motion to approve the September 12th, 2019 minutes, seconded by Jeff Harris. All approved.**

Financial Report

Charlie Bettis presented the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet reviewing current assets, fixed assets, and liabilities. Jack Qualls stated the audit draft has been received for review, bring the final audit to the board at our next meeting. Blair Patterson stated there were no findings in the audit.

Bruce Giles made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Eddie Simpson. Motion passed.

Approval of \$37,500 Three Star Grant (Education and Workforce Development)

The Executive Committee made a recommendation to approve the reimbursable Three Star Grant to be used for education and workforce development. **Bruce Giles made a motion to approve the \$37,500 Three Star Grant, seconded by John Evans. All approved.**

Proceeds from Centre 75 – Lot 9 (23.023 acres x \$200.00 per acre) = \$4,604.60

The Executive Committee made a recommendation to give the proceeds received from the sale of property at Centre 75 to Jack Qualls. **Eddie Simpson made a motion to give the proceeds received from the sale of Lot 9 to Jack Qualls as a performance bonus, seconded by Bruce Giles. All approved.**

Grants/Grant Opportunities

The TVA Community Livability Impact Funding was discussed in the Executive Committee Meeting. John Evans suggested that he would like to see the EDA develop a focus group to decide the best use of this funding.

Jack Qualls mention the following grants and grant opportunities:

- TVA InvestPrep (50/50 grant up to \$500k) – this grant could be used for brush cuts/shrubs, and/or the subdividing of Lot 6
- City of Loudon EDA Grant – disaster relief grant
- TASS CDBG grant – the EDA will assist with the grant to provide TASS with a larger water tank

TVA Strategic Plan – Reschedule from August 28th, 2019

The Loudon County EDA scheduled a strategic planning session facilitated by TVA on August 28th, 2019. There were a large amount of conflicts resulting in the cancellation of the planning session. This Strategic Plan would give us a Community Wide Masterplan to develop on for the future. **John Evans made a motion to reschedule the TVA Strategic Planning Session, seconded by Bruce Giles. All approved.**

Property and Industrial Activity Update

Jack Qualls gave the following updates:

- There has been movement with small projects looking at our existing empty buildings
- The Hutch Property has been demolished
- There has been movement with RFI's and local existing expansions
- The EDA needs to look further into purchasing software that can give us specific and accurate community data and spatial analysis in house

Workforce Development Update

Blair Patterson gave the following updates:

- The current unemployment rate is 3.1% equating to 726 people that are unemployed
- The Industry Showcase held in October as a part of National Manufacturing Week was a success. 10 local industries and 100 local students participated
- The "Pipeline Connect" program initiated through Three Star funding will be taking off once collaboration between education and industry has taken place.
- Roane State received funding through the GIVE Grant – giving Lenoir City High School funds for advancing their IT and Mechatronics programs
- Both Lenoir City and Loudon High Schools will be touring BCI Tennessee Division next Friday

Transportation Projects Update

Jack Qualls provided the Board with a spreadsheet of transportation project data including each project's details.

Additional Business

- Christenson Yachts located on the Tellico Peninsula has recently received their certificate of occupancy
- John Harrison mention the importance of developing a plan for each city's growth for now and into the future

With no further business **Jeff Harris made a motion to adjourn seconded by Bob Elliott, motion carried.**