

**Loudon County Economic Development Agency/  
Joint Economic and Community Development  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Lenoir City Utilities Board  
March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**The following members were present:** Mayor Buddy Bradshaw, Mayor Jeff Harris, John Evans, John Harrison, Eddie Simpson, Harold Duff, Rodney Grugin, George Bove, and Amber Scott-Kelso

**Also present were:** Mayor Tony Aikens, LCEDA staff members Jack Qualls and Blair Patterson

Chairman Buddy Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 1:57 p.m.

**Approval of the minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting**

The minutes were emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for their review. **Eddie Simpson made a motion to approve the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes, seconded by Rodney Grugin. All approved.**

**Financial Report**

John Evans presented the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet reviewing current assets, fixed assets, and liabilities. **Eddie Simpson made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Rodney Grugin. Motion passed.**

**Approval of Proposed LCEDA FY2022-2023 Budget**

This item was discussed and recommended by the Executive Committee. **John Evans made a motion to accept the Executive Committees recommendation to seek contribution increases with the salary increase coming out of reserves if needed, seconded by John Harrison. All approved.**

**FY 2020-2021 Audit Update**

Jack Qualls informed the Board of Directors that our Audit has been delayed due to the retirement of our auditor. The Board will be presented with the Final Audit at our next Board Meeting.

**ThreeStar Grant Project – Economic Impact Study Update**

Jack Qualls stated that there has been a consultant group chosen from the RFQ. They will begin work and then begin making visits to the community in a couple months.

**Projects/Prospects/Workforce Development Update**

Jack Qualls gave the following updates:

- Offers coming in on small tract soon
- Project Panda is still pending – hopeful for an answer by April, Project Panda is a 100 Million Dollar Project
- If Project Panda does not move forward, the Grant Dollars for the Pad Site will be used to create a Pad on the property
- LCEDA, TRDA, TCAT and the State are looking into future development of a Fiberglass certification class for the boating industries

Blair Patterson gave the following updates:

- LCEDA organized meetings with Malibu Boats and both school systems to partner with apprenticeship and work based learning opportunities

- Malibu Boats is hosting an on-site job fair and then Signing Day at Loudon High School at the end of the school year

**Additional Business**

With no further business *John Evans made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rodney Grugin. Motion carried.*

Blair Patterson

Blair Patterson, Recording Secretary