



Grayson County Economic Development Authority

P. O. Box 217; Independence, VA 24348

October 24, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present

Christopher J. Butler
Todd Cannaday
Gary Rascoe
Elizabeth Hash
Jason Baumgardner
Kenneth Belton
Elizabeth "Betsy" Shearin
Darin Young (non-voting)

Staff Present

Stephen A. Boyer
Mitchell L. Smith
Lyndsie Young
Tracy Cornett

Members Absent

Staff Absent

Nikki Edwards

OPEN MEETING

Chair opened meeting, called roll and determined a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Hash made the motion to approve the minutes from August 22, 2024; duly seconded by Mr. Rascoe. Motion carried 7-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Boyer reported a balance of \$777,200.46 in the EDA fund and noted that Mrs. Edwards has been out of the office due the health issues and will have her send out the financials once she's back in the office.

OLD BUSINESS

- Childcare – Mr. Boyer noted that we could possibly receive some funding for a childcare study, approximately \$25,000 – if approved, once we receive funding for the study, we will move forward.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mt. Rogers School Property – Mr. Tom Revels addressed the EDA as the president of Mt. Rogers Community Improvement Corporation on behalf of the Mt. Rogers School and gave a brief history and noted that the citizens are interested in preserving the building. Currently one project they have secured and is under construction is a Heli-pad in White Top/Mt. Rogers Community. The community would like to have a place for music and possibly move the syrup operation there

and noted that he is here to ask the EDA to give the building to the Whitetop Community Club and the community is prepared to make this happen by taking responsibility and maintaining the building/premises. Mr. Revels noted that they would like to sell the syrup year-round and would do it as a co-op. Currently the county has paid for a new roof, demolition and current mowing. Mr. Rascoe spoke favorably in doing this, so the building doesn't continue to deteriorate. Mr. Rascoe made the motion to transfer ownership to the Mt. Rogers Community Improvement Corporation; duly seconded by Mr. Belton. Motion carried 7-0.

- Revolving Loan Pool Fund for Agriculture – Mr. Boyer spoke regarding this and how we can help our agriculture community recover quicker from the hurricane – noted the EDA could possibly open up some money as grants or loans. Discussion took place and Mr. Boyer noted that the County/USDA/Tobacco Commission could all possibly add to the effort. Mr. Young noted there are different loans available through different agencies but as a producer himself, he doesn't want a loan because he's not sure he could pay it back. Discussion continued on parameters and an amount to invest. EDA will look to form a sub-committee of Lindsey Carico, Tim Phipps, Nathan Osborne, Lyndsie Young, Kevin Spurlin, Kenneth Belton, and Steve Boyer or their appointees. Consensus from EDA members to place \$200,000 once the sub-committee comes up with the parameters.

INFORMATIONAL

- None

EDA MEMBER TIME

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Belton made the motion to enter into executive session for discussions relating to the acquisition or disposition of real property pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia involving Healthcare and for discussions relating to prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(5) of the Code of Virginia; duly seconded by Mr. Baumgardner. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Belton made the motion come out of executive session; duly seconded by Mr. Rascoe. Motion carried 7-0.

Whereas, the Grayson County Economic Development Authority (EDA) has convened a closed session on this 24th day of October 2024, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Grayson County Economic Development Authority (EDA) hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed session to which this certification resolution applies, and (II) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Economic Development

authority with recorded confirmation from members as follows: Jason Baumgardner – I so certify; Todd Cannaday – I so certify; Gary Rascoe – I so certify; Elizabeth Shearin – I so certify; Kenneth Belton – I so certify;; Elizabeth Hash – I so certify; Gary Rascoe – I so certify.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held November 19, 2024, at 4pm due to the Thanksgiving holiday falling on the normal scheduled meeting

ADJOURN

Mr. Rascoe made the motion to adjourn; duly seconded by Mrs. Hash. Motion carried 6-0.