

FINAL MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2009, MEETING OF
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 9TH DAY OF APRIL 2009,
AT 8:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 623 HIGHLAND COLONY PARKWAY,
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The Special meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 9th of April, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 623 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS

Members Present: John Almond, Calvin Harris, Dick Hutchinson, and
Chip Estes

Also present were Tim Coursey, Lenita Knight, Mitch Stringer, and
Taravia Seals and attorney Jim Streetman

Guests: Bobbie McMurtry, Jeff Ballwebber, Andy Clark, Kirk Craig, Lucy
Webber

At 8:40a.m., Chairman Hutchinson announced that the members present constituted a quorum and declared the meeting duly convened and directed that the notice for the meeting be filed with the minutes.

Mr. Almond made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris made a motion to adopt the March 26, 2009, minutes as presented. After a second by Mr. Estes, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. After a second by Mr. Almond, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jeff Ballwebber provided an update on the Northeast Madison County Lake Initiative. Mr. Ballwebber reported that he recently participated on a conference call with Mr. Coursey, Mr. Harris and Supervisor Paul Griffin to discuss the Lake Initiative. During this call, adjustments were made to the things to do list, deliverables were firmed up, and the Corps of Engineers needs were discussed as well as the Doaks Creek Water Shed issues.

Mr. Ballwebber also reported that there is a need for a formal request from MCEDA to the Department of Archives and History. Mr. Ballwebber will write the letter for MCEDA to be sent on MCEDA letterhead. Mr. Ballwebber also reported that he has been working with Mr. Stringer to complete funding requests with revisions and detail as needed. Mr. Ballwebber

presented a new contract of services for follow up work, with deliverables, to Mr. Coursey. He will email this information to Mr. Coursey as well.

Mr. Coursey stated that in honor of Mr. Thomas Johnson and his dedication to MCEDA, he would suggest that the MCEDA Board consider completing, adopting and passing a resolution or a plaque for Mr. Johnson's years of dedicated service. Mr. Estes suggested a monumental plaque of some sort located at Thomas Johnson Road. Mr. Estes made a motion to place a memorial plaque at Thomas Johnson Road. After a second by Mr. Harris, the vote was tied with 2 votes of yes and 2 votes of no.

Mr. Coursey reported that he met with Steve Seale to discuss the Northeast Lake Initiative. Mr. Seale reported that he needed to complete due diligence and Mr. Coursey will share the information received during the May MCEDA Board meeting. Mr. Coursey added that he is considering meeting with Mr. Seale on a monthly basis. Mr. Coursey reported that the Madison County Board of Supervisors has asked MCEDA to consider joining them to hire Mr. Seale for an additional year of service.

Mr. Coursey introduced Ms. Jan Collins, Executive Director for the Madison County Business League. Ms. Collins stated that she is excited about the opportunities for the Madison County Business League and looks forward to working closely with MCEDA. She stated that she understands the importance of organization and the spirit of cooperation. She also stated that the Business League is open to the suggestions and concerns of the MCEDA Board. Ms. Collins reported that the Business League is currently working on marketing materials. She reported that the Business League currently has 7 members and the next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2009.

Ms. Harris presented print ad costs and requested input from the MCEDA Board on which direction it would like to take regarding the purchase of print advertisement to promote MCEDA. Ms. Harris reported that once the determination is made regarding the purchase of print ads, the message will be compiled and disseminated. Ms. Harris has communicated with Heath Hall regarding securing the services of Strategic Marketing Group on an hourly basis. She stated that Mr. Hall would be able to provide this service at a rate of \$125.00 per hour. It is the will of the MCEDA Board that Ms. Harris check with other marketing firms with a scope of work expected to secure other quotes.

Mr. Coursey reported that he attended the Madison County board of Supervisors meeting and presented the master plan for the Gluckstadt property as well as a rendering of plans for the new MCEDA building. Mr. Coursey stated that there was neither opposition nor offers of contention from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Estes stated that MCEDA needs a vote before any additional funds are spent and that MCEDA should have the sign off from the Board of Supervisors before proceeding on the new facility.

It is the will of the MCEDA Board that the MCEDA Board and staff will schedule a lunch with the Board of Supervisors for the purpose of determining their level of support and direction regarding the new office building for MCEDA. It is suggested that Mr. Coursey will prepare a financial package and explain the cost associated with the new facility.

Mr. Jim Streetman provided an update from the legal counsel stating that he has been familiarizing the firm with MCEDA and the associated statute and such. Mr. Streetman introduced Mr. Andy Clark with his office. He stated that Mr. Clark would be working with MCEDA as well. It was stated that all interaction with the attorney's office should continue to come through the MCEDA staff.

Mr. Coursey reported that the Madison County Board of Supervisors had granted MCEDA's request regarding the Parkway East MCEDA property drainage. The county attorney has approved the construction of a drainage ditch. The ditch will allow MCEDA will need to determine the extent of the wetlands on the property.

Mr. Coursey stated that he has no travel request at this time.

Mr. Stringer reported that he has been working with county lobbyist, Mr. Steve Seale. Mr. Stringer stated that he will receive direction from Mr. Seale on the most appropriate way to proceed with the Northeast Lake Initiative funding and meeting requests once Mr. Seale has further communication with Mr. Ballwebber.

Ms. Knight reported that the distribution of videos to schools continues to be successful. Ms. Knight stated that she has visited several Canton Public Schools and Madison County Schools. She will continue scheduling schools for presentation times. The students continue to be extremely receptive to and appreciative of the video.

There was a motion by Mr. Almond and second by Mr. Estes to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to discuss personnel, land acquisition and land sales. The motion passed unanimously. There was then a discussion of the need to go into Executive Session to consider the aforementioned, at the conclusion of which there was a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Almond to do so. This motion was adopted unanimously. Chairman Hutchinson then opened the meeting to announce publicly that the Board was going into Executive Session to discuss professional services. Chairman Hutchinson convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Mr. Harris made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Almond, there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the open session. The following actions taken in Executive Session were then reported by the Chair:

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After the presentation of a new contract from Pickering, it is the sense of the MCEDA Board that Pickering Engineering should honor all the terms of the original contract at no additional costs. The MCEDA Board does agree to pay \$6,000.00 for the Grant Writing function. This includes Pickering as the Grant Writer and not leading the grant writing process as well as scheduling and completing a meeting with the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Almond made a motion that the MCEDA Board join with the Madison County Board of Supervisors in hiring Mr. Steve Seale as lobbyist for Madison County. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

At 10:00 a.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Hutchinson and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

G. Richard Hutchinson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Calvin Harris, Secretary-Treasurer