

FINAL MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, MEETING OF
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST 2009,
AT 8:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 623 HIGHLAND COLONY PARKWAY,
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 12th day of August, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 623 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS

Members Present: Dick Hutchinson, Chip Estes, Bob Williams, Calvin Harris, Lanny Slaughter and Jack Harrington

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

Guests: Jan Collins, Mike Kent, Philip LeRoux, and Lucy Webber

At 8:37a.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. Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt the July 9, 2009, minutes as presented. After a second by Mr. Harrington, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey introduced Mike Kent, Madison County Schools Superintendent. Mr. Kent shared information regarding the upcoming School Bond issue. Mr. Kent stated that the Bond would allow for a new High school as well as improvements to all other 22 Madison County Schools. This \$61,000,000.00 bond would be achieved without any tax increase to the citizens of Madison County. Mr. Kent asked for the support of MCEDA on the Bond Issue.

Mr. Estes made a motion that MCEDA endorse the bond issue for the Madison County School District as presented by Mr. Mike Kent. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Estes made a motion for MCEDA to allocate \$5,000.00 to develop an advertising campaign with the Madison County School District. After a second by Mr. Williams, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris made a motion to accept the Financials as presented. After a second by Mr. Williams, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey introduced Mr. Philip LeRoux with Summers, Green and LeRoux. Mr. LeRoux reported that he has completed the financial audit of the MCEDA accounts and that all records are in order. Mr. LeRoux presented the Financial Audit report to the MCEDA Board for period ending September 30, 2008.

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the Audited Financial Statements Supplementary Information as presented by Mr. LeRoux. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that the MS Development Authority sponsors an annual state meeting in Japan as members of the Japan-U.S. Southeast Association. This association was established to promote trade, investment, understanding and friendship between Japan and member states of the southeast U.S., Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. Mr. Coursey stated that he has been invited to attend the meeting this year. He stated that the plan would include attendance at the 4 day event as well as visit Kanda, Japan. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve travel request to Japan for Mr. Coursey during October 2009 for the Japan US Southeast Association's annual meeting. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that the Madison County Business League will host its first meeting on September 17, 2009. Mr. Coursey would like to propose MCEDA sponsorship this event. Mr. Estes stated that the MCEDA quality of life video needs to be incorporated into this event as well. Mr. Williams made a motion the MCEDA donate \$1,000.00 as a sponsorship earmarked for the facility rental to promote economic development through the Madison County Business League. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that MDOT will take up to 1.8 acres of MCEDA owned property for the Gluckstadt Interchange right of way. Mr. Coursey suggested that Mr. Streetman contact Mr. Dick Hall on MCEDA's behalf to determine a schedule for taking the property and determine a price that is in the best interest of MCEDA. The MCEDA Board feels it is important to be the first in line in approaching the transportation commissioner. It is the will of the MCEDA Board to have a new forensic appraisal completed to secure accurate comps and value of the property as well as determine the economic impact this will have on MCEDA.

Ms. Jan Collins provided an update for the Madison County Business League. Ms. Collins thanked the MCEDA Board for their sponsorship of the upcoming MCBL Fall Forum. Ms. Collins reported that the MCBL added 5 new members in July and 6 new members in August. Ms. Collins stated that Congressman Gregg Harper would be in attendance at the monthly MCBL meeting.

Mr. Coursey reported that the Budget Committee has met and determined that MCEDA should be able to operate with the amount designated by the Madison County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Coursey stated that there is a deficit reflected, namely because of the Parkway East assessment and the PK USA lease decrease. Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA will focus on ways to cut costs while still maintaining services. Mr. Harrington made a motion to approve the MCEDA Budget as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that the MCEDA Strategic Planning Retreat is scheduled for August 27 and 28, 2009. The retreat will be conducted in two ½ day sessions. Mr. Coursey will serve as facilitator for the retreat. Mr. Coursey provided a proposed agenda which includes the topics of Gluckstadt Development and New Office, Gluckstadt Rd. – MDOT right-of-way acquisition Gluckstadt Rd., Thomas Johnson Dr. – 16th section, Galleria (St. Dominic's Tech Park), Technology/Manufacturing Incubator, Kanda Sister City Project, NE Madison Lake Project, Update Marketing Plan, Corporate HQ visits, Business League, Economic Symposium, Training Center Renovation and Debt Reduction Plan.

Mr. Coursey reported that the proposed Economic Outlook Symposium can be completed for less than originally proposed. Mr. Coursey stated that as he gathers more information it will be brought back to the Board.

Mr. Coursey stated that Mitch Stringer has been working to update and renovate existing signage in the Madison County industrial parks. Mr. Estes inquired as to rather or not the sign maintenance should be the responsibility of the tenants of the park(s) and not that of MCEDA. Mr. Stringer stated that he has a quote for sign renovation for approximately \$10,000.00. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve funding not to exceed \$10,000.00 for signage renovation. After a second by Mr. Estes, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey presented Mr. Steve Seale. Mr. Seale provided an update on the senate appropriations bill, stating the Madison County's requests were appropriated in the amount of 4.5 Million dollars. Mr. Seale also reported that the BOS have hired Barbara Blackmon as a lobbyist for the county as well, stating that they both will work both political party sides. Mr. Hutchinson expressed that it is time for MCEDA to get the support needed from Mr. Seale for the Northeast Madison County Lake study.

Mr. Streetman provided an update from legal counsel. Mr. Streetman stated that they have been working to get parcels and deeds coordinated for Canton and Gluckstadt property for covenant updates.

There was a motion by Mr. Harris and second by Mr. Williams to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to discuss 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. Estes and a second by Mr. Harrington 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 Personnel Matters. Chairman Hutchinson convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Williams, 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:

Chairman Hutchinson reported that there were no actions taken during Executive Session to report.

Mr. Coursey request approval for travel to an upcoming IEDC consultant event in Atlanta, GA for Mitch Stringer. Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve travel request for Mitch Stringer to Atlanta, GA. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Stringer reported that he has been working with an existing industry in preparations for an expansion announcement. Mr. Stringer also reported that he has visited with Tower Automotive. Tower is reporting that they are rehiring employees after the previous layoff. Mr. Stringer also stated that he and an MDA representative have a meeting scheduled to meet with L-3's new manager along with a MDA representative.

Mr. Stringer stated that Entergy has a new web site which focuses on site selection. Mr. Stringer stated that Entergy has put a lot into the website and it has a great deal of useful information. Interested organizations or communities can subscribe to the website and can link to their own website with their own banner so as to appear seamless. The approximate cost will be \$3,700.00. This will take the place of the LOIS database.

Ms. Knight reported that the Sister City Committee has been working to identify a budget for travel to Japan. The proposed date of travel will be during the months of May and June 2010. Ms. Knight reported that the committee is working on the composition of letters to be sent to the counselors and principals of all 9th grade level schools in Madison County. Ms. Knight stated that the Steering Committee has received a commitment from Nissan in the amount of \$1,000.00. The committee will continue to pursue other sponsorships to help to defray costs.

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At 10:47 a.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Harris and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

G. Richard Hutchinson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Calvin Harris, Secretary-Treasurer