

FINAL MINUTES OF THE JULY 12, 2007, MEETING OF
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 12TH DAY OF JULY 2007,
AT 8:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE 1855 COURTHOUSE IN CANTON, MISSISSIPPI

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 12th day of July, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. in the 1855 Courthouse in the City of Canton.

Members Present: Chip Estes, Thomas Johnson, Barbara Gray
and John Almond.
Also present were Tim Coursey, Lenita Knight,
Mitch Stringer and Attorneys Sam Keyes and Ronny Loeb.

Guests: Duane O'Neill, Andy Copeland and Max Draughn

At 8:40 a.m., Chairman Estes 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 noted that the date of the agenda should be changed to the date of July 12, 2007. Ms. Gray made a motion to adopt the agenda with the recommended change. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt the June 14, 2007 minutes. After a second by Mr. Almond, the motion was unanimously approved.

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

Ms. Raley reported that the Madison County Foundation would like to congratulate MCEDA for the work done during the NBAF selection process. She also reported that the Foundation has officially changed their trip to Washington to take place during the month of October.

Ms. Raley reported that the Foundation will have six new members on their Board. Once these replacements are selected, the Foundation would like to meet with MCEDA for a time of introductions and discussion. Ms. Raley will provide the Washington initiatives from last year to all MCEDA Board members.

Ms. Raley stated that MCEDA has always been a Washington supporter through its contributions and wanted to make sure that this would continue. Members of the MCEDA Board stated that MCEDA does not see any changes in their relationship with the Foundation and will continue MCEDA's path of funding as it has been. She stated that the Foundation is open to suggestions

from MCEDA and is willing to assist and support MCEDA in any way possible.

It is the direction of the MCEDA Board that Mr. Coursey will write a letter requesting the support of the Madison County Foundation for MCEDA as it presents its budget-funding request to the Madison County Board of Supervisors. A budget committee was then identified consisting of Mr. Thomas Johnson, Ms. Barbara Gray, Mr. Chip Estes and MCEDA Staff.

Mr. Coursey reported that Mayor Scott Greaves could not be in attendance at this meeting and would like to defer the Town of Flora Grant request until the next MCEDA Board meeting.

Mr. Duane O'Neill extended congratulations to MCEDA for the work on the NBAF selection process. He applauded the teamwork and effort. The five finalist states are Mississippi, Georgia, North Carolina, Kansas and Texas. Mr. O'Neill stated that part of the process going forward will include public scoping meetings, the first of which will take place in mid September. These meetings will take place in the community to get public input.

Mr. O'Neill stated that the existing consortium will remain in place. This consortium includes Governor Barbour's office, MDA, Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce, several institutions of Higher Learning, including University Medical Center, Battelle Memorial and MCEDA.

Mr. Coursey stated that the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce is making a request for \$20,000.00 towards the costs associated with NBAF and recommends that MCEDA Board approve this request. Mr. Johnson made a motion to grant the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce \$20,000.00 towards the costs associated with the NBAF project. After a second by Mr. Almond, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. O'Neil reported that approximately \$500,000.00 has been spent on the NBAF project to date.

The MCEDA Board would like to see the information about upcoming NBAF events disseminated through the Flora Harvester in addition to the other area newspapers.

There was a motion by Ms. Gray and second by Mr. Johnson to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to address possible land sales, land acquisition and potential litigation. 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. Johnson and a second by Mr. Almond to do so. This motion was adopted unanimously. Chairman Estes then opened the meeting to announce publicly that the Board was going into Executive Session to discuss possible land sales, land acquisition and potential litigation. Chairman Estes convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Ms. Gray made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Johnson, 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:

Mr. Johnson made a motion to exercise the contract right to regain the Gluckstadt property previously sold to Fore Investments. After a second by Mr. Almond the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Almond made a motion to offer 5 acres of land to Ironwood at a sales price of \$2.00 per square foot. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Almond made a motion for MCEDA to secure all Cap Loan proceeds outstanding and purchase the 3.5 acres of land in Flora owned by Jerry Green. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

During Open Session, Mr. Stringer made a presentation of the completed aerial photos of the industrial parks in Madison County.

Mr. Almond made a motion to recommend JH&H as the managing firm for construction at the WIN Job Center with the stipulation that work will only proceed when MCEDA has a signed lease contract with CMPDD. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Gray made a motion to approve travel request for Lenita Knight to New Orleans for IEDC Marketing conference. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Gray made a motion to bring the contribution of funds to the Metro Jackson Chamber vote back to the table. After a second by Mr. Almond the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Almond made a motion to revote for MCEDA to donate \$20,000.00 to the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce towards the costs of the NBAF project. After a second by Mr. Johnson, there were 3 votes of yes and one no by Ms. Gray.

Ms. Gray made a motion to allow outside legal counsel for certain real estate transactions or other issues as needed. After a second by Mr. Almond, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Stringer reported that Existing Industry location visits completed during the month include Southland Container and Sun Pine. These industries had favorable comments about Madison County and MCEDA. Mr. Stringer plans to continue contacting and scheduling visits with existing industry.

Final Minutes
July 12, 2007
Page 4

Ms. Knight reported that communication is ongoing with Nissan regarding Workforce Training. The group has met with Mr. Dick Boyd of the Barksdale Reading Institute. Mr. Boyd provided valuable insight on how businesses could benefit by involvement in local schools and at what age or grade level might be most appropriate. Another option being considered is business adoption of local schools. Ms. Linda Ross Aldy with MS Partners in Education has been contacted regarding the procedures and criteria for school adoption through this program.

At 11:35, upon a motion made by Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Johnson and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

Bryan "Chip" Estes, Chairman

ATTEST:

Deborah Martin, Secretary-Treasurer