

FINAL MINUTES OF THE JULY 17, 2014, MEETING OF THE
MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 17th DAY OF JULY, 2014,
AT 8:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 625 HIGHLAND COLONY PARKWAY,
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 17th day of July, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 625 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS.

Members Present: Bill Guion, Dick Hutchinson, Baxter Strain, Jim Smith,
Lanny Slaughter and Calvin Harris

Also present were Tim Coursey, Taquana Mack, and Attorney Andy Clark.

Guests: Dr. David Powe

At 8:34 a.m., Chairman Guion 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. Slaughter made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. After a second by Mr. Strain, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 MCEDA Board meeting. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Strain reported that he had reviewed that Financial Report and everything appeared to be in order. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the MCEDA financial report as presented. After a second by Mr. Slaughter the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Jan Collins provided an update for the Madison County Business League (MCBL). She stated that the United Way of the Capital Area Board of Trustees approved a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the North Madison County Excel By 5. This grant will provide needed funding for the continuation of efforts to raise awareness for early childhood education of children 0-5 years of age in order that they may be prepared for kindergarten and beyond. She is very proud to receive recognition for those grants and also stated that United gave \$10,000, Nissan contributed \$15,000, and \$5,000 from Trustmark. The awards presentation will be held the week of July 21, 2014 and she noted that the MCBL looked forward to partnering in the future with Excel by 5.

Ms. Collins gave an update on the MCBL new board that was just seated. She stated that the pictures were in the paper.

Ms. Collins stated MCCEC is hosting the 3rd Annual Big Business After Hours at Livingston Farms on September 25. The governor has been invited to this event as well. This event will highlight people who are apart of the creative economy in Madison County.

Ms. Collins also reported that the Madison County Youth Leadership is gearing up for this upcoming school year. The dates have already been selected and she also stated that if anyone is interested in nominating a student then they could contact the administration at that child's school.

Mr. Collins provided an update on the Entrepreneurship meeting on July 16, 2014, stating that it was a success and was attended by approximately 35 people. The SWAT team was discussed at this meeting and would be the team that serves as coaches and mentors.

Ms. Collins stated that she is preparing to do recruiting soon with a membership drive and if the board knew of anyone to please let her know.

She provided an update regarding the MCBL and Foundation merge stating that the lawyers would be meeting this evening, July 17, and once they come up with an agreement then they will proceed.

Mr. Coursey gave an update on the status of the social media conversation reach report. MCEDA subscribed with Leadify about a year ago for social media marketing and since that time 2 million people have been reached via social media sites and its outlets. He says the objective is to inform the general populous of who MCEDA is and what it does. Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA's tweets and Facebook statuses have been viewed and reviewed 2 million times and now people are beginning to understand and know what MCEDA does. Leadify gives a report every quarter regarding trends or what people are talking about and Mr. Coursey read some of the highlights from it and is very satisfied. He encouraged that it will only get better once MCEDA puts a Marketing person in place and that staff person would feed the topics to Leadify. Leadify used a social media marketing tool called Flipboard which is an online magazine that has been used to promote MCEDA and 55 articles has been published to it to date. Mr. Smith also suggested that MCEDA verify's that there are no redundant post or tweets being made and that the timing of post is courteous of people's time.

Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA has completed the MDA grant and is currently closing it out. He says that MCEDA started out with 230 acres, decreased 142 acres, 64 acres of open water (pulled the wetlands) and shaved off 100 acres of wetlands.

Mr. Coursey presented the board with the update on the MS Competitiveness Study. The MEC contracted to have an economic development competitiveness study completed which would compare Mississippi to other benchmark southern states. This was a private study and the entire state of Mississippi was observed. Mr. Coursey stated that the study had been completed and there was a desktop review instead of in person since Panther Creek's site was already qualified. Panther Creek scored very high. Mrs. Danielle Winningham devised a plan to alleviate things that were in MCEDA's control since the study showed that they would like to see the state as a whole work with the legislatures to get behind the remedies to make it better. Mr. Coursey stated that the governor is very passionate about it.

Mr. Coursey stated that he and Attorney Clark are in the process of preparing the deed to transfer the water well site in Flora over to the Town of Flora.

The Panther Creek Marketing video interviews are scheduled. See Danielle's report. The drone was shipped on Monday and should be received on this week.

The Marketing talent attraction video is complete and will be sent out to the people on the mailing list.

Mr. Coursey gave an update on the progress of the new office stating that the main challenge with the flood plain that had prevented closing has been solved by purchasing flood insurance and they look to close on next week.

Attorney Andy Clark provided an update to the board and stated that the SCC, lawyers from Phelps Dunbar, will execute letter from MCEDA for title insurance and that all has been cleared up and is on the right track.

Mr. Coursey stated that he and Attorney Clark are working out the details to assume the lease that Xerox had with MDES for the space that was occupied in the back of the Watford Drive building.

The business development report was provided and Mr. Coursey stated that Topre, a Nissan supplier, is considering an expansion in Mississippi, and MCEDA is working with MDA to support the efforts to win the expansion at Panther Creek.

Mr. Coursey provided an update on phone and firewall system for the MCEDA office. He stated that the office phone system was being switched to VOiP phones and saves an estimated \$600.00 per month. A firewall also will be installed since the one that was in use was outdated.

There were some updates and repairs that were made to the Watford Drive building. Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA is doing some touchups and installed a new back door as well as completed some paint touch ups. Telehealth One also had work completed in the reception area.

There was a motion by Mr. Hutchinson and second by Mr. Strain to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to address economic development projects. 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. Hutchinson and a second by Mr. Strain to do so. This motion was adopted unanimously. Chairman Guion then opened the meeting to announce publicly that the Board was going into Executive Session to discuss economic development projects. Chairman Guion convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Mr. Coursey presented Dr. David Powe of TelehealthOne to the board. Dr. Powe updated the board stating that the Collaboratory/TelehealthOne is moving along on schedule. The office is being set up with furniture and connections for equipment. The office should be fully operable by October but has already begun soft operations. Dr. Powe stated that Telehealth has been in negotiations with a couple of prospective hospitals. If that goes as planned, operations would start up immediately. MCEDA is a partner with TelehealthOne and as TelehealthOne gets revenue, MCEDA gets 5% of it concerning the collaboratory.

Dr. Powe stated that MCEDA was awarded a \$250,000 ACE grant in June to fund startup operations for Telehealth One. The money will be awarded to MCEDA on behalf of TelehealthOne. Dr. Powe informed that TelehealthOne is a poster child for healthcare economic development for the state of Mississippi and that they were looking for revenue based operations.

Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA successfully filed the ACE grant application with MDA to perform a build-out for the Bio-Medical collaboratory and has been awarded one million dollars that will be approved at the MDA board meeting on July 24. Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA had also applied for another EDA one million dollar grant. He stated this grant would allow the exterior work on the building, parking lot, landscaping, loading dock, and other work to be completed. The ACE grant will be for the build out in the warehouse.

Dr. Powe stated that TelehealthOne is working with international companies in hopes to have them locate here and will be meeting with the medical president for the U.S. in the upcoming weeks. Dr. Powe and Mr. Coursey are working with local hospitals and groups to see if they are interested. Dr. Powe is looking to travel back to Fort Myers to actually arrange a tour of the LeeSar plant there as well as take a group along to witness the success of it.

Mr. Coursey mentioned that they would be meeting again with Global Institute for Research and Operational Training (GIROT) and Dr. Chris Powe in the next week regarding their space needs.

Mr. Coursey also informed the board of John Turner's phone call regarding Entergy performing a major upgrade to the transmission facilities in order to support Panther Creek and south Hinds County. He stated that MCEDA would need to support this.

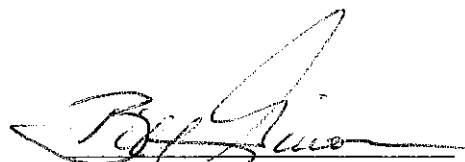
Mr. Coursey reported that he would be meeting with Rick Moore from Mad Genius/EyeVox on Friday to begin discussing the details of the lease agreement with the Film Studio. Attorney Clark is drafting up the legal forms and the financial committee that consists of Bill, Baxter and Jim, will meet to discuss and go over it.

Mr. Coursey stated that MCEDA could not afford to haul the dirt to the site behind Levi's and the Parkway East. He spoke with Mr. Warnock who suggested an alternative solution of digging retention ponds, bringing it to grade and then selling it.

Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to seek an attorney general's opinion on the property Parkway East assessment. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Harris there was a unanimous vote to adjourn Executive Session. And reconvene the open session. The following actions taken in Executive session were then reported by the chair.

At 11:30 a.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Strain, second by Mr. Hutchinson and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned.


Bill Guion, Chairman

ATTEST:


Baxter Strain, Secretary/Treasurer