

FINAL MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2015, MEETING OF
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 11th DAY OF JUNE, 2015,
AT 8:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 135 MISSISSIPPI PARKWAY,
CANTON, MISSISSIPPI

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 11th day of June, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 135 Mississippi Parkway, Canton, MS.

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

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

Guests: Jan Collins, Molly Braswell, and Attorney Cory Wilson

At 8:38 a.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.

Attorney Cory Wilson, who is currently running for Madison County's new House seat, was introduced to the MCEDA board as a guest.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. After a second by Mr. Smith the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2015 MCEDA Board. After a second by Mr. Smith, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris reported that he had reviewed the 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 and Foundation. She stated that MCBL&F's focus has been on the move into the new office and more information will be forthcoming regarding a ribbon cutting/open house. Molly Braswell, Ms. Collins' assistant, has been working with her in getting things set up for their new office space.

Ms. Collins also stated that there is an advertisement from MCEDA and MCBL&F in Manufactured in Mississippi.

The July board meeting was moved to June 30, 2015 due to the MEDC conference schedule conflict that the MCEDA and MCBL&F staff will be attending.

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Mr. Coursey presented the ad valorem tax exemption applications that were submitted late to MCEDA and the Tax Assessor. Ad Valorem tax exemptions were requested by the following: Vari-Form, American Howa Kentucky, Systems Electro Coating, and First Choice Medical. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Ad Valorem requests for Vari-Form, American Howa Kentucky, Systems Electro Coating, and First Choice Medical as per the suggestions of the Madison County Tax Assessor, and in accordance with the policy of the Madison County Board of Supervisors governing industrial exemption applications adopted May 23, 2005. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey stated that the accounting firm, Summers, Green, & LeRoux, who were engaged to conduct the annual MCEDA audit led by Mr. Phillip LeRoux, found all MCEDA records to be in order. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Audit report as presented. After a second by Mr. Strain, the motion was unanimously approved.

Attorney Clark presented the project bonds pre-clearance renewal resolution. It was decided to amend it and present the change at the next board meeting on June 30, 2015.

Mr. Coursey stated that Priority One and Renasant Bank have offered to give MCEDA a better interest rate on the new office building loan with certain conditions. Mr. Coursey will report back to the board at the next meeting with more information on the details and conditions for review.

The Small Community Marketing Grant application was submitted again for review and a decision. The original application was sent back to Livingston Community Foundation to amend by typing it out since it was ineligible to read and the invoices did not qualify for reimbursements. Livingston Community sent a second application but it was identical to the first. Mr. Williams made a motion to deny the MCEDA Marketing Grant to Livingston Community Foundation in the amount of \$2,500.00. After a second by Mr. Guion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey provided an update on the Bio-Medical Collaboratory build out. The new front door entrance is almost complete as well as the windows are on schedule to be installed in two weeks. The drywall has been completed with exception of the large helicopter area. The smaller HVAC system has been redesigned for the side offices in the back.

Mr. Coursey will be meeting with several new clients that will be touring the facility in the coming month, including the Mississippi National Guard. Mr. Coursey stated that the build out should be completed in July or August tentatively.

Mr. Coursey thanked Mr. Dick Hutchinson for all of his help with the new MCEDA office furniture. The office move has been going well and the fiber for the Internet should be installed next week. The old MCEDA office furniture will be donated to the county (E911).

Ms. Danielle Winningham provided an existing industry report and project spreadsheet. She assisted the Madison County Tax Assessor's office with communication to Topre, Vari-Form, First Choice Medical, SEC and American Howa Kentucky regarding the ad valorem tax exemptions and privilege licenses.

Ms. Winningham sent a registered letter to Faurecia along with a quote to mow the land. Attorney Clark will check on the next step since the land still has not been cut. There was also correspondence that was sent to American Cell Tower regarding clearing the land around the cell tower in CMIC.

They agreed to clear the land and provide continued care up to six (6) times a year.

Ms. Winningham worked with Mr. Hutchinson to receive, unload, and position new furniture in the new office as well as coordinated with e911 and the city of Canton to get the official address on record. She also provided a detailed punch list for JH&H and contractor.


A 2014 tax notice from Kay Pace on the +/-37.19 MCEDA property on Parkway East was received. The tax notice is in the amount of \$107,444.32 as a special PID assessment, and \$4297.77 in interest. Attorney Andy Clark advised that he had received an Attorney General Opinion on behalf of the MCEDA Board that assessments are to be treated as ad valorem taxes, and any real property owned by any state entity is exempt from taxation. Accordingly, Mr. Clark advised that the MCEDA Board acknowledge receipt of the tax notice, but advise the Madison County Tax Collector of the Attorney General Opinion, and that MCEDA would not be making payment. Mr. Strain made a motion that the MCEDA Board acknowledge receipt of the tax notice, but advise Ms. Kay Pace that they would not be making payment. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, the motion unanimously passed.

There was a motion by Mr. Strain and second by Mr. Slaughter 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. Williams and a second by Mr. Harris 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 economic development projects. Chairman Hutchinson convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Strain 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:

No action was taken.

At 11:03 a.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Harris and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned.


Richard Hutchinson, Chairman

ATTEST:

