

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2001, MEETING
OF THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 19TH DAY OF MARCH, 2001, 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 19th day of March, 2001, at 8:30 a.m. in the 1855 Courthouse in the City of Canton, Mississippi.

Members Present: Sammy Brown, Chip Estes, Thomas Johnson, Billy Thames, John Wallace and Hite Wolcott. Also present were Jerry Acy, Bob Montgomery, John Bourgeois, and Joy Foy.

Guests: Robert Anderson, Danny Williams, Larry Johnson, and Gary Chamblee.

Chairman Estes announced that the members who were present constituted a quorum and declared the meeting duly convened.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 15, 2001, meeting as presented. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Wolcott made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 23, 2001, meeting as presented. After a second by Dr. Thames, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 2, 2001, meeting as presented. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Gary Chamblee of Pinnacle Construction presented site plans for MCEDA's review on the Phillips property on Lot #4 at Central Mississippi Industrial Center (CMIC). Construction of the 4,200 square foot building will commence as soon as the weather permits. The goal is to complete construction by July 15, 2001. The building will be split faced blocks and a stucco finish across the front pursuant to the plans which are attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Johnson made a motion grant architectural approval of the presented plans. After a second by Dr. Thames, the motion was unanimously approved.

The trees cut on MCEDA property behind Leavitt Tube were discussed. Link Advertising, the company that cut the trees, will replant the trees on the MCEDA property.

The financial reports attached to and made a part of these Minutes by reference were presented and reviewed. A list of the invoices is attached to the Minutes and labeled "Docket." Dr. Thames made a motion to approve the March financial reports and the payment of the monthly invoices. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

A summary of the nine bids submitted for the construction of the Nissan Training Facility road work were reviewed. A copy of Mr. Bourgeois's letter of recap and recommendation, together with the tabulation of the bids are attached to and made a part of the Minutes by reference. Dr. Thames made a motion to approve the low bid of Jay Bearden Construction for \$243,332.97. After a second by Mr. Brown, the motion was unanimously approved.

Concerns over the steep grade up to the Nissan Training Facility was discussed. Waggoner will facilitate the grade of the building and the grade of the road to insure acceptable appearance.

Proposals from Pete Weisenberger and L Signs for refurbishing the sign at CMIC, on Levi property was presented. L Signs bid \$7,980 for the work and Mr. Weisenberger bid \$5,250. Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept Mr. Weisenberger's bid and to authorize the work to repair the sign. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the motion was unanimously approved.

Messrs Larry Johnson and Danny Williams addressed the Board in stating the wishes of the Madison County Development Foundation (MCDF) to move forward with having a unified voice with MCEDA. They asked for guidance to support MCEDA. It was agreed that the Chairman of MCEDA and a member of the staff would be invited to attend the MCDF meeting and that the President of the MCDF would be notified and attend the MCEDA meeting. Dr. Thames made a motion to approve office space on the second floor for the MCDF President including a desk and regular cleaning service. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the motion was unanimously approved.

At 10:10 a.m. the Board took a break

At 10:30 a.m., Mr. Johnson made a motion to enter closed session for the purpose of determining whether or not to declare an executive session. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the motion was unanimously approved. Whereupon Chairman Estes recessed the general session and convened the closed session.

After discussion of matters, Dr. Thames made the motion to return to open session. Mr. Brown seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted, whereupon Chairman Estes reconvened the open session. The reasons stated for executive session were transaction of business and discussion regarding prospective land sales, land acquisition and potential litigation.

For the stated reasons, Mr. Johnson made a motion to declare an executive session at 10:35 a.m.. After a second by Dr. Thames, the motion was unanimously approved. Whereupon, Chairman Estes closed the open meeting and convened an executive session.

An offer for the property behind Two Rivers Restaurant for a 24-hour diner was presented. The offer was to purchase 28,000 square feet of the property at \$3.10 per square foot. The issue of how much available land is there led the Board to commission Mr. Bourgeois to determine the available acreage and to invite the prospect to present the proposal in detail at the April meeting.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to oppose the cutting of the trees along Interstate 55 at Leavitt Tube site and take appropriate action to replant sizable trees and to take the position of opposing the billboard re-zoning request. After a second by Mr. Wolcott, the motion was unanimously approved.

North American Plastic requested a letter of commitment on the price of property to extend their existing facility in the CMIC. No action was taken.

A request for 5-7 acres of Martin property in the CMIC was discussed. It was the consensus of the Board that the price of land should be contingent upon the number of jobs and the investment the prospect will make. A proposal will be presented in April.


A letter from Mr. William Scott Wyatt, attorney with Vinson & Elkins, requested, on behalf of Leavitt Tube Company, an assignment of the lease agreement for the property at 211 Industrial Drive, in the CMIC. Dr. Thames made a motion to authorize Chairman Estes to sign the Lease Agreement Assignments for the Leavitt Tube property at 211 Industrial Drive North in the CMIC at Gluckstatdt. After a second by Mr. Wallace, the motion was unanimously approved.

A request for property in the Canton Commercial and Industrial Center to build a Log Cabin sales office was denied.

At 11:45 a.m., Dr. Thames made a motion to adjourn executive session. With a second from Mr. Wolcott and with all voting "aye" the executive session was adjourned and the general session reconvened.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to ask the MCDF to sponsor the Nissan Appreciation Dinner for the Mississippi Development Authority. After a second by Mr. Johnson, the motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mr. Wolcott made a motion to adjourn. After a second by Mr. Brown, the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.


BRYAN W. "CHIP" ESTES, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:


STEVE DAVENPORT, SECRETARY-TREASURER