

FINAL MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2018, REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF  
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2018,  
AT 8:30 A.M.  
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM  
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 135 MISSISSIPPI PARKWAY,  
CANTON, MISSISSIPPI

The regular meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 8<sup>TH</sup> day of March 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 135 Mississippi Parkway, Canton, MS.

Members Present: Jim Smith, Sells Newman, Lanny Slaughter, Doug Jones, Dwight Lockett, Ed Gardner, Calvin Harris

Staff: Joseph Deason, Attorney Arthur Jernigan, Taquana Mack, Danielle Winningham, Lauren Scheel

Guests: Jan Collins

At 8:31 a.m., Chairman Lockett announced that the members present constituted a quorum, declared the meeting duly convened and directed that the notice for the meeting be filed with the minutes.

Mr. Jan Collins opened the meeting with a prayer.

Mr. Smith made a motion to adopt the agenda. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018, MCEDA Board meeting. After a second by Mr. Jones, the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Lockett and Secretary/Treasurer Gardner signed off on the minutes.

Secretary/Treasurer Gardner made a recommendation that the monthly MCEDA financial reports be approved. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the financial reports 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 and upcoming dates and events. Ms. Collins also stated that the League and Legislature event was a great success.

There was a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Slaughter to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to address legal matters with Project Phoenix, Parkway East, and the transaction of business and discussions or negotiations regarding the location, relocation, or expansion of a business or industry. The motion passed unanimously. There was then discussion of the need to go into Executive Session to consider the aforementioned, at the conclusion of which there was a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Smith to do so. This motion was unanimously adopted. Chairman Lockett then opened the meeting to announce publicly that the Board was going into Executive Session to discuss the legal matters with Project Phoenix, Parkway East, and the transaction of business and discussions or negotiations regarding the location, relocation, or expansion of a business or industry. Chairman Lockett convened an Executive Session for this purpose. Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Harris, there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the Executive Session, and reconvene the open session. The following actions were taken in Executive Session and were then reported by the Chair:

There was no action taken.

Ms. Winningham provided a social media update. Raborn Media, located in Gluckstadt, is now handling all of MCEDA's social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Ms. Winningham provided a report showing the data and stats.

Mr. Deason stated that MCEDA was approached about the old sign at the industrial park in Gluckstadt and will be updating it with a new design that includes the MCEDA logo.

Ms. Lauren Scheel provided an update on existing industry visits stating that she has visited with Nissan as well as the MSU Cavs Center and has been actively engaging and working with different companies to assess their needs and offer assistance.

Ms. Winningham has been working on the ACT Work Ready Community goals for Madison County. She has been working with the MCBL&F and will be sending a letter out to the businesses informing them of the initiative and how they can help by signing up in support. Ms. Winningham also mentioned possibly attending a HR convention in April and setting up a booth.

There was discussion from the board members regarding the process of MCEDA personnel being hired and fired and the need for a policy of acknowledgement moving forward. Mr. Newman suggested an organizational chart from Mr. Deason be presented at the next meeting as well as a policy recommendation of how it will be handled in the future that board members could vote on.

Mr. Harris made a motion to ratify and confirm the approval of Telehealth's amended lease in the Collaboratory. After a second by Mr. Jones, the motion was unanimously approved.

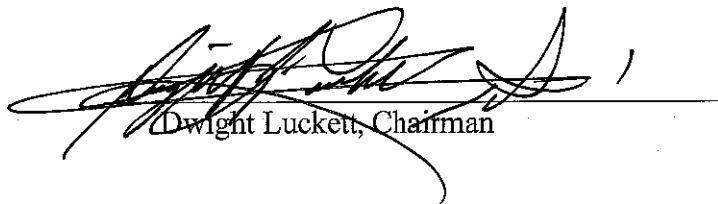
Ms. Winningham updated the board on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 establishing Opportunity Zones. This is a new community development program aimed to encourage long term investments in low-income and rural communities and she stated that applications were submitted for areas in Madison County that may qualify using census tracts. She showed an example of what was submitted stating that only a few would be chosen.

Ms. Mack discussed the need for board officers to sign off on minutes and other required documents during every board meeting. Moving forward, there will be time allotted for signing off on all pertinent documents and information.

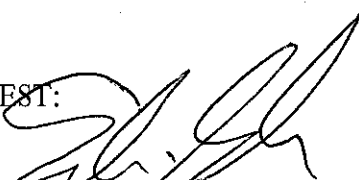
There will be a tour of Northeast Madison County on March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Mr. Deason also mentioned that MCEDA will be seeking to obtain an extension on the ACE Grant for the Bio-Medical Collaboratory.

At 11:04 a.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Dwight Lockett, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Ed Gardner, Secretary/Treasurer