

FINAL MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2012, MEETING OF  
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY MAY 2012,  
AT 8:30 A.M.  
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM  
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 623 HIGHLAND COLONY PARKWAY,  
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was conducted on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 623 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS.

Members Present: Bob Williams, Lanny Slaughter, Dick Hutchinson,  
Calvin Harris, and Bill Guion

Also present were Tim Coursey, Lenita Knight,  
NaToya Hill, Danielle Winningham and Attorney Andy Clark.

Guests: Phillip LeRoux and Jan Collins

At 8:37 a.m., Chairman Williams 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. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Guion made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2012 MCEDA Board meeting as presented. After a second by Mr. Slaughter the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey presented Mr. Phillip LeRoux to the MCEDA Board. Mr. LeRoux presented the completed audit report for the period ending September 30, 2011 for review. Mr. Guion made a motion to approve the auditor's report for the MCEDA financials for the period ending September 30, 2011. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Jan Collins provided an update for the Madison County Business League. Ms. Collins reported that the Economic Symposium held at Nissan on May 10, 2012, was a great success. Ms. Collins added that the speaker's presentations are on the MCEDA and MCBL websites.

Ms. Collins stated that she is currently working with the Governor's office to plan a coffee event or possible luncheon. Plans are also still underway for an event with Congressman Bennie Thompson. Additionally, a proposed meeting is scheduled with Mr. Dick Hall and will be held at the Butler Snow offices at 11:30 am on May 16, 2012.

Mr. Coursey reported that a new MCCFC board member needs to be appointed from the MCEDA Board. Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Lanny Slaughter to the MCCFC Board as a replacement for Mr. Bill Guion. After a second by Mr. Calvin Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that he would like to request a budget amendment to move funds from the Grants line item to the Web Site line item. Mr. Guion made a motion to amend the MCEDA Operations Budget reallocating \$7,500.00 from the Consulting Services line item to the Web Site line item. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that it will cost approximately \$35,000.00 to prepare and plant grass at the MCEDA property in the Canton Industrial Park. This action will be necessary to keep the property presentable. Mr. Coursey suggested that the MCEDA Board consider reversing the restriction of farming of row crops in industrial parks. It is the sense of the MCEDA Board to not reverse the decision. Additionally, Mr. Coursey will talk with Mayor Truly to get his opinion regarding the industrial park property in Canton.

Mr. Coursey reported that the MCEDA office lease has been renegotiated at a savings of .95 per square foot per month. The new lease would require a 6 month commitment with month to month commitment thereafter. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the new 6 month lease for the MCEDA offices. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey reported that the Town of Flora is proposing locating a new water well site in Flora. Mr. Coursey will meet with Flora municipal representatives to discuss what might be the best location. Waggoner Engineering will provide a drawing of the proposed location.

Mr. Coursey reported that he will be contacting Supervisor Paul Griffin regarding the amended development plans of the proposed retail store for Camden. Chairman Williams suggested that a Farmer's Market could be considered for the location.

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

Mr. Coursey reported that Mr. Jeff Ballwebber submitted grant applications for boating and trails in the amount of \$95,000.00 with a \$27,000.00 match. Grants will be used towards the development of the Sulphur Springs recreation park.

Mr. Coursey reported that door to door surveys were conducted in west Madison County to aid in the qualification for a 50% match from CDBG.

Mr. Coursey also reported that in regards to the Bio-Medical Accelerator effort, a consortium has been formed between MCEDA, MSU and UMC. MDA has appointed a project manager. MSU

is in the process of planning a visit to North Dakota. Mr. Coursey stated that the next meeting will include researchers from MSU and UMC in the field of head trauma and head protective gear. Additionally, the consortium is exploring a virtual meeting place to get the program initiated versus securing real physical space in a building.

Mr. Coursey reported that the Film Studio committee met and has discussed the hiring of RoadTown Enterprises, LTD. The CCVB does not currently have a contract with RoadTown Enterprises, LTD. It was discussed that the lack of workforce training is still an issue. Mr. Harris made a motion to table the discussion with the provision of the CCVB getting current on their lease agreement and continuing to pay as the contractual agreement states. After a second by my Slaughter, the motion was unanimously approved.

Attorney Andy Clark provided an update from legal counsel stating that all points of conversation have already been covered.

Mr. Coursey provided Director's recommendations and comments stating that the Canton Charrette was a great success. The City of Canton vs. Nissan lawsuit has been dismissed. Mr. Coursey also reported that he has not heard anything further regarding the proposed waterpark or Wal-mart.

Mr. Coursey stated that he would suggest that MCEDA take another look at the broadband project. Mr. Coursey suggests contacting Bubba Weir to see if he could advise on another person to lead the search. Mr. Coursey added that he will complete some additional research.

Mr. Coursey reported the following proposed travel; IEDC Conference, Tim Coursey, June 10-12, St, Louis, MO and Danielle Winningham, SEDC conference, May 15-16, Atlanta, GA.

Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to authorize the MCEDA Executive Director to purchase 1.88 acres of property in Camden in the amount of \$15,000.00 with the approval of Supervisor Paul Griffin. After a second by Mr. Harris the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Winningham provided an existing industry update. Ms. Winningham stated that letters have been mailed to manufacturers in Madison County to request PriorityOne existing industry visits and plant tours. Ms. Winningham, along with Drew Troxler of MDA met with Georgia Gulf plant manager and will be planning a follow up visit to tour the plant.

Ms. Winningham stated that she attended the Chicago Consultant trip with the Greater Jackson Alliance and will be attending the upcoming SEDC Meet the Consultants event. Ms. Winningham also reported that she has been working with Ms. Hill and Mr. Coursey to identify an economic development website company.

Ms. Winningham reported that there are several prospects still in play and recently submitted an RFP response to Entergy for building space.

Ms. Knight provided a community development update. Ms. Knight stated that she participated on the Canton Planning Committee in preparing for the Canton Economic Development Charrette. The Charrette was held April 30 through May 3. Ms. Knight stated that the Charrette was a great success.

Ms. Knight also reported that she worked with Mr. Phillip LeRoux providing information as the MCEDA financials audit was conducted for the period of October 2010 through September 2011. Ms. Knight also reported that the graduation of the 2012 Leadership Madison County Class is scheduled for May 22 at Butler Snow. Ms. Knight stated that this will be the end of her first year as Co-Chairperson and added that this has been a successful year. Ms. Knight also reported that she will serve as chairperson for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual MS Women's Conference sponsored by the Canton Chamber Main Street, to be held on June 7, at the CAVS Center in Canton.

There was no Executive session.

At 10.47, upon a motion made by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Guion and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

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Robert Williams, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Bill Guion, Secretary-Treasurer