

FINAL MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, MEETING OF
THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 8TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2009,
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 8th day of October, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in the MCEDA Office at 623 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS.

Members Present: Dick Hutchinson, Chip Estes, John Almond
Calvin Harris, Jack Harrington and Lanny Slaughter

Also present were Tim Coursey, Lenita Knight, Mitch Stringer, and
Taravia Seals and Andy Clark

Guests: Jan Collins, Steve Vassallo, Jeff Ballwebber, JoAnn Gordon, Linda Case,
John Wallace and Nick Smerigan

At 8:30a.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.

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

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to adopt the September 10th, 2009 meeting and the September 26th 2009 Special Meeting, minutes as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Coursey introduced Mr. Steve Vassallo with the Swedish American Chamber. Mr. Vassallo stated that MCEDA has been the Swedish American Chamber's greatest benefactor in the 4 years of the organizations existence. Mr. Vassallo provided an overview of the current focus of the Chamber which includes sustainable technology companies. Mr. Vassallo requested that the MCEDA Board renew their sponsorship of the Swedish American Chamber in the amount of \$10,000.00. Mr. Almond made a motion to approve the sponsorship of the Swedish American Chamber in the amount of \$10,000.00. After a second by Mr. Estes the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Coursey introduced Mr. Jeff Ballwebber. Mr. Ballwebber provided an update on the Northeast Madison County lake project which included a wrap up of the current agreement as well as proposed next steps. Mr. Ballwebber reported that the Doaks Stand site is doable. Mr. Ballwebber also stated that requests for project funding were affected by the administration change and the Washington trip had been postponed because the persons in positions were all temporary points of authority. Mr. Ballwebber stated that he continues to look to find the most feasible source of funding available to seek on MCEDA's behalf. Mr. Ballwebber stated that we would be glad to compile a glossy presentation for the MCEDA staff and board to take with them on the Washington trip scheduled for October 27 and 28, 2009. Mr. Ballwebber also stated that he would be available to attend this trip if needed.

Mr. Coursey reported that Mr. Bob Williams would not be able to attend MCEDA Board meetings schedule for Thursdays. Mr. Coursey would like to propose a change of date for the monthly MCEDA Board meeting date. Chairman Hutchinson stated that this would be taken under advisement.

There was a motion by Mr. Slaughter and second by Mr. Almond to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to discuss Land Sales. 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. Almond 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 Land Sales. Chairman Hutchinson convened an Executive Session for this purpose.

Mr. Estes made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. After a second by Mr. Slaughter, there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the open session. The following actions taken in Executive Session were then reported by the Chair:

Mr. Estes made a motion to approve Mr. Coursey to enter into a sales contract on the behalf of MCEDA to sell property in Flora for \$38,500.00 as recommended by MCEDA staff. After a second by Mr. Almond the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Estes made a motion to authorize Mr. Coursey and the Executive Committee to negotiate a contract with the Canton Convention and Visitor's Bureau and Film Office to lease or lease purchase the MCEDA owned building located at 123 Watford Parkway Drive in Canton Commercial and Industrial Center and to facilitate the swap of Canton Tourism Sound Stage property for approximately 25 acres of MCEDA property located in the Canton Commercial and Industrial Center, subject to a phone or email poll of the MCEDA Board. After a second by Mr. Harrington the motion was unanimously approved.

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During open session, Mr. Coursey stated that he has been investigating options for a new MCEDA office building. Mr. Coursey reported that Parkway Properties has proposed building a 10,000 sq ft building where MCEDA could occupy the 2nd floor and Parkway would lease the 1st floor. The MCEDA Board expressed that more options are needed for consideration. The Board also expressed that any office built should be owned by MCEDA. The Board directed Mr. Coursey to identify at least four location options with estimated costs and pros and cons of each location to bring back to the Board.

Ms. Jan Collins provided an update from the Madison County Business League. Ms. Collins reported that the MCBL's Fall Forum was a success and thanked MCEDA Board and staff for their assistance and attendance. Ms. Collins stated that the next MCBL meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2009 at 4:00. There will be a panel of legislatures present to provide legislative updates.

Mr. Coursey reported that a trip to Washington DC trip has been scheduled for October 27th and 28th 2009 for MCEDA with the Madison County Board of Supervisors, Steve Seale and Barbara Blackmon. Meetings have been scheduled with Congressman Thompson, Senator Wicker and other representatives. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve travel authorization to Washington DC for Tim Coursey, Mitch Stringer, Dick Hutchinson, Calvin Harris and Lanny Slaughter. After a second by Mr. Slaughter the motion was unanimously approved.

Attorney Andy Clark provided an update from legal counsel. Attorney Clark stated that revised covenants have been drafted and filed for the Canton Industrial Park. Attorney Clark also stated that the attorneys are currently working to get a MDOT meeting scheduled concerning the Gluckstadt property.

The MCEDA Board would like to have Attorney Barbara Blackmon attend the next MCEDA Board meeting to provide an update on lobbying efforts.

Mr. Stringer reported that he has completed several industry visits which include Johnson Controls, Hederman Brothers and Steel Technologies. Mr. Stringer reported that the industries are indicating that they are hiring back employees that were previously laid off. Mr. Stringer also reported that he will be looking at planning a MCEDA sponsored Industry Event, possibly a Golf Tournament.

Ms. Knight reported that letters are scheduled to go out to all of the counselors at the Madison county schools regarding the Sister City opportunity. Ms. Knight stated that Mr. Coursey will be visiting Kanda in the next week and will finalize plans with the Kanda dignitaries.

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At 11:00, upon a motion made by Mr. Almond, seconded by Harris, and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.

G. Richard Hutchinson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Calvin Harris, Secretary-Treasurer