

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2020, BOARD MEETING OF THE
MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AND CONDUCTED AT 9:30 A.M.
IN THE MCEDA CONFERENCE ROOM
OF THE MCEDA OFFICES AT 135 MISSISSIPPI PARKWAY,
CANTON, MISSISSIPPI

Members Present: Gerard Gibert

Members attending by phone: Ed Gardner, Lanny Slaughter, Dwight Lockett, Calvin Harris

Staff: Joseph Deason and Attorney Arthur Jernigan

Staff attending by phone: Taquana Mack, Lauren Scheel, Danielle Winningham

At 9:32 a.m., Acting Vice-Chairman Gibert announced that the members present in person and telephonically constituted a quorum, declared the meeting duly convened and directed that the notice for the board meeting be filed with the minutes. The Board members acknowledged by their attendance that they waived any formal notice of the board meeting.

Vice-Chairman Gibert led in prayer.

Mr. Deason asked that the agenda reflect the moving of the Ad Valorem discussion to a meeting in the near future. Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve the agenda noting the change of the Ad Valorem discussion. After a second by Mr. Lockett, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lockett made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular MCEDA board meeting on February 13, 2020 and the special board meeting on February 26, 2020. After a second by Mr. Gardner, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Deason stated that the financial reports and reconciliation reports have been signed and he recommends approval. Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Deason has currently sent staff home due to the Corona virus pandemic but has been physically present at the office. He also updated the board on Nissan and its closing, other suppliers, and businesses.

FEMA, the disaster relief agency, is now occupying the call center space in the Collaboratory building and will create 89 jobs that will count toward offsetting the ACE grant. Attorney Jernigan and Mr. Deason have met with them regarding the ACE grant and the jobs met. Mr. Deason stated that he is currently working on installing a door between the call center space and the warehouse.

Mr. Deason stated that MCEDA will install a door between the call center space and the warehouse space and he is currently acquiring quotes. This would allow FEMA to have direct access to the space. The insurance adjuster is also assessing the roof and HVAC systems at the WIN/Collaboratory building and MCEDA office building for hail damage and would provide more information soon.

Mr. Deason provided an update to the board on the tour of the former Thonet Industries along with Ms. Winningham.

Mr. Deason presented the TIF Guidelines for Madison County to the Board and advised the Board that these guidelines had been approved and adopted by the Madison County Board of Supervisors and that the MCEDA Board has been asked for their approval of the guidelines. Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve the TIF guidelines as presented by Mr. Deason. After a second by Mr. Harris, the motion was unanimously approved.

Entergy held a contractor's meeting for the substation at the Collaboratory and Mr. Deason provided an update on the access road. MDA has granted an extension on the grant for 6 months.

Attorney Jernigan provided an update on the airport lawsuit and will be attending a mediation with all parties on May 19th to resolve the lawsuit.

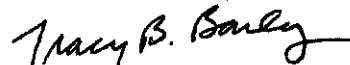
There was a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Gardner to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the need for an Executive Session to address the transaction of business and discussions or negotiations regarding the location, relocation, or expansion of a business or industry. The 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. Slaughter to do so. This motion was unanimously adopted. Vice-Chairman Gibert then opened the meeting to announce publicly that the Board was going into Executive Session to discuss the transaction of business and discussions or negotiations regarding the location, relocation, or expansion of a business or industry. Vice-Chairman Gibert convened an Executive Session for this purpose. Mr. Lockett 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 were taken in Executive Session and were then reported by the Chairman:

No Actions Were Taken

Mr. Deason updated the board on Project Ragsdale and their fee in lieu (FIL) request. Project Ragsdale is an \$80 million solar project seeking possibly to locate in the County. After further discussion, Mr. Deason asked the Board to adopt a resolution in support of the Board of Supervisors approving the Project Ragsdale FIL request. At that time Board member Ed Gardner recused himself from the meeting and upon motion then made by Lanny Slaughter and seconded by Dwight Lockett the Board voted unanimously to support Project Ragsdale's request to the Board of Supervisors for a FIL agreement.

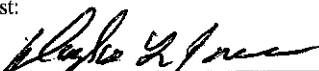
Mr. Deason then advised the Board that the Option Agreement between the Walker Foundation and MCEDA on the additional Megasite land purchase was going to expire in April. Upon Motion made by Dwight Lockett and seconded by Lanny Slaughter, they voted unanimously to authorize Mr. Deason to re-negotiate the Option Agreement with the Walker Foundation for all or a portion of the remaining acres in the Megasite.

At 10:33 a.m., there being no further business to come before the Board, Acting Vice-Chairman Gibert declared the meeting the adjourned.



Tracy Bailey, Chairman

Attest:



Doug Jones, Secretary/Treasurer