

October 27, 2005

The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat held a regular meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Wytheville Municipal Building located at 150 East Monroe Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman	William F. Snyder, Vice Chairman
George T. Johnstone, Treasurer	Robert J. Ayers
David L. Elmore	Danny B. Gordon

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Gerald L. Brewer

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT**

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator  
Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager  
C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Mr. Freeman called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present. Mr. Gordon offered the invocation, and Mr. Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CITIZENS' TIME**

Mr. Freeman asked if there were any persons present who wished to address the board during citizens' time. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 22, 2005**

Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ayers, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES**

Mr. Gordon requested an explanation for check #1036 to Hodges & Campbell. Dr. Hawthorne replied that the payment is related to the Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to pay the invoices. The motion passed unanimously.

**Joint IDA of Wythe County  
Check Register  
For the Period From Sep 23, 2005 to Oct 27, 2005**

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Check Number.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount
1036	10/27/05	Hodges & Campbell	292.50
4726	10/26/05	Appalachian Power	92.67
4727	10/26/05	Anthem Southeast Dental	90.76
4728	10/26/05	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,404.32
4729	10/26/05	Companion Life Insurance Co	75.14
4730	10/26/05	Fort Dearborn Life Ins Co	26.85
4731	10/26/05	Sprint	123.97
4732	10/26/05	Sprint	9.12
4733	10/26/05	Bankcard Services	260.97
4734	10/27/05	Alan R. Hawthorne	3,615.52
4735	10/27/05	Angela D. Pack	1,692.92
4736	10/27/05	Michael B. Webb	2,050.37
4737	10/27/05	Alan Hawthorne - Reimbursement	402.37
4738	10/27/05	Chamber of Commerce	60.00
4739	10/27/05	First Bank of Virginia	2,792.04
4740	10/27/05	Media General - TC/SWVA	233.33
4741	10/27/05	Mike Webb-Reimbursement	11.64
4742	10/27/05	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
4743	10/27/05	VA Dept Of Taxation	463.21
4744	10/27/05	Virginia Employment Commission	50.00
4745	10/27/05	Xerox	393.36
4746	10/27/05	Angela D. Pack	48.02
<b>Total</b>			<b>15,289.08</b>

**OLD BUSINESS**

**IMPAIRED RLF LOAN UPDATE**

Dr. Hawthorne provided an update on the Wythe Precision Machine loan. Legal Counsel Mr. Tom Hodges asked that Dr. Hawthorne recalculate the outstanding balance, including interest, through November 2005. Dr. Hawthorne notified the board of a possible settlement offer. Mr. Gordon asked what the outstanding balance is on the loan, and Dr. Hawthorne replied it is just over \$100,000.

**WORKFORCE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Dr. Hawthorne noted that the Workforce Committee meetings have been productive. The committee identified the need for career coaches and career development in the county's schools. WCC is funding one career coach who works only at Fort Chiswell High School because that school expressed the most interest in utilizing a career coach. A committee goal is attaining funding for a total of three career coaches who will focus on both the middle school and the

corresponding high school in the county. Dr. Hawthorne noted that surrounding counties are also either utilizing career coaches or investigating doing so. The committee also discussed introducing a broader preparation course for a general manufacturing career as opposed to the specialized courses now offered. Dr. Hawthorne stated that the feedback received from the educators on the committee was positive regarding the career coaches. Mr. Freeman pointed out that he read several recent national articles regarding this subject. The articles' authors recognize that changing the perception of manufacturing jobs at an early age is crucial for the future success of the manufacturing sector. Mr. Freeman stated that people have to recognize manufacturing as a viable career path. If not, it does not matter what incentives are offered because a locality will not be able to attract new industry. Dr. Hawthorne informed the board that the career coach for Fort Chiswell High School is giving a presentation at next week's committee meeting. He also stated that the committee discussed conducting a job fair in January. He explained that he is forming a steering committee to plan the fair, and the committee has received approval from Richmond for sufficient funding to heavily advertise in Wythe County and contiguous counties. Dr. Hawthorne is the Joint IDA representative on the job fair committee. He announced that volunteers are needed for the day of the job fair. He hopes to obtain approval to create a video, similar to those by Workforce Services, that would increase interest among the schools in general manufacturing careers.

#### **FAIRVIEW HOUSE RENTAL INQUIRY**

Dr. Hawthorne informed the board that Habitat for Humanity expressed interest in renting the house, which four of its board members toured. Dr. Hawthorne consulted with VML regarding insurance coverages. VML confirmed that the Joint IDA must be listed as an added insured on Habitat for Humanity's general liability policy, and the Joint IDA should require a contract stating such. Dr. Hawthorne recommended that the Joint IDA lease the house to Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Gordon inquired as to the terms of the lease, and Dr. Hawthorne replied that he anticipates offering a one-year lease with a thirty-day termination notice option. Mr. Gordon commented that the building is in need of repair, but it could possibly be a long-term home for the Joint IDA. Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board of the poor condition of the house. Mr. Gordon requested a tour of the building. Mr. Freeman remarked that several of the board members could tour at once. He also noted that the park entrance sign requires updating. Mr. Johnstone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ayers, to negotiate with Habitat for Humanity for a one-year lease contingent upon the liability insurance and contract. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **ENTERPRISE ZONE UPDATES**

Dr. Hawthorne noted that the new Enterprise Zone program is currently governed by emergency regulations, but the General Assembly will adopt permanent regulations. Dr. Hawthorne and Mr. Webb attended an input session regarding the permanent regulations.

#### **OTHER**

Mr. Webb encouraged the board members to purchase tickets to the annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner on November 21, 2005. Mr. Gordon suggested the board sponsor a table of four at a cost of \$250. Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board that a ticket for himself and a ticket for

Mr. Webb were included in the invoices approved earlier. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to purchase a four-ticket table and to identify individuals to provide with the tickets.

Mr. Webb explained that Linda Butt was unable to provide anyone to plant the daffodils discussed at the previous board meeting. Therefore, the Joint IDA did not purchase any flowers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PROJECTS UPDATE**

Dr. Hawthorne commented that, so far, prospect activity this fall is encouraging. Mr. Gordon commented that the Mount Rogers IDC announced its expansion on the local radio station and would be contacting the Joint IDA staff regarding a press release. Dr. Hawthorne replied that the IDC contacted him earlier this morning, and a press release would be issued at the next board meeting.

**ACTIONS REGARDING RFPs AS REQUIRED FROM WORKING SESSION**

Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to proceed with staff's recommendation to negotiate with proposal "B." The motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER**

There was no other new business.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

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Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Angela D. Pack, Secretary