

JOINT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Minutes of Meeting

July 23, 2009

The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat held a regular meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Wytheville Municipal Building located at 150 East Monroe Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT

William Snyder, Chairman
Tom Jones
Dana Pack

Linda DiYorio
Jennifer Jones

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Elmore, Vice Chairman
Foy Patton

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator
Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present. Linda DiYorio offered the invocation, and Chairman Snyder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' TIME

Chairman Snyder welcomed Bucky Sharitz and Mary Jo Babbitt to the meeting and asked if there were any persons present who would like to address the Board during citizens' time. There being none, Chairman Snyder proceeded with the meeting.

PRESENTATION - ROSA LEE JUDE, TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

Rosa Lee Jude, Director of Tourism for the Town of Wytheville, gave an informative presentation to

the Board regarding the importance of tourism to the local economy. Highlighted was the number of motels/hotels, campgrounds, restaurants and other attractions available in Wytheville and Wythe and Bland Counties. Each member of the Board received a copy of a Basic Tourism Related Information fact sheet, Virginia Tourism Corporation travel-related spending and tax revenue information spreadsheet, and a Wytheville area tourism brochure. Ms. Jude discussed the revenue generated by tourists who visit Wytheville and Wythe County. She also mentioned that the Wytheville Convention & Visitors Bureau responds to over 75,000 individual inquiries per year from potential visitors. There are also over 100,000 brochures distributed to various visitor information centers, trade shows and paid brochure distribution services around the United States and Canada. The Board thanked Ms. Jude for sharing the presentation with them and commended her on the information provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES—June 25, 2009, meeting

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Ms. DiYorio, to adopt the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Ms. DiYorio made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve the invoices. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Joint IDA of Wythe County
 Check Register
 For the Period From June 25, 2009 through July 23, 2009

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount
1048	7-23-09	Joint IDA of Wythe County	287.34
5907	7-22-09	Alan R. Hawthorne	4,165.83
5908	7-22-09	Patrick G. Burton	2,518.24
5909	7-22-09	Virginia M. Goodwin	1,536.60
5910	7-22-09	Appalachian Power	106.85
5911	7-22-09	Anthem Southeast Dental	81.78
5912	7-22-09	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,402.52
5913	7-22-09	Embarq	174.81
5914	7-22-09	Mellon Trust of New England, NA	850.00
5915	7-22-09	Principal Life Insurance Co.	152.94
5916	7-22-09	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
5917	7-22-09	Sprint PCS	82.03
5918	7-22-09	VA Dept of Taxation	10.00
5919	7-22-09	VA Economic Dev. Assoc	410.00
5920	7-22-09	Wytheville Office Supply	39.84
5921	7-22-09	Xerox	307.80
Total			\$13,226.58

OLD BUSINESS

PROGRESS PARK RAIL SITE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Dr. Hawthorne reported that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors is having geotechnical tests performed. The results should be received by Monday, July 27. Once test results are received, Dr. Hawthorne will work with Mr. Dalton to prepare cost and funding proposals.

PROGRESS PARK TOUR SUMMARY

Patrick Burton reported that citizens who went on the tours appeared to enjoy themselves. Everyone who showed up at the bus stop at Spiller Elementary got to go on a tour. Many positive comments were received. Patrick thanked the Wythe Arts Council, the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce, Danny Gordon/WYVE, and the Wytheville Enterprise for their assistance in promoting the event. Patrick recognized Duke Yontz, from Duke's Printing, for loaning his mobile P.A. system; and Regina Pickle, with Wythe County Schools, for driving the bus. He also recognized Brad Vaught of Wytheville Technologies and Kristi Selby of Gatorade Blue Ridge for the work they did with their respective teams to provide excellent tour presentations. Patrick also thanked the team of volunteers that led tours and helped out at the bus stop – this group was a big part of the event's success. Patrick reported that there would be a follow-up meeting of volunteers and committee members on July 31 at the Joint IDA office.

OTHER

Dr. Hawthorne comments - Dr. Hawthorne expressed appreciation to the entire community for the support that was extended to him and his family during his wife's sickness and passing. He thanked the staff for their help while he was out of the office. He also thanked the Board members for their continued support, thoughts, and actions during such a difficult and trying time.

Recession Impact on Labor Statistics - Dr. Hawthorne presented an analysis of labor force statistics during the recession. Highlighted were changes in employment, labor force, and unemployment rate. The figures compared were for the period from May 2008 through May 2009 for the United States, Virginia, Wythe and surrounding region, and Wythe County. A key finding is that although employment numbers remain relatively high the labor force in Wythe County seems to be growing at a faster rate. The relatively high current unemployment percentage is primarily due to the increase size of the work force. Employment in Wythe County in April 2009 was higher than at any time in 2008. It should be noted that the Virginia Employment Commission often adjusts these figures after initial publication.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

Dr. Hawthorne is in the process of compiling the financial reports for the 2008-2009 audit. The anticipated date of completion is August 10. An audit committee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for August 13. Ginny Goodwin will contact the members to see if this is a convenient day and inquire as to what time they would prefer to meet. The committee members are Bill Snyder, Linda DiYorio and Dave Elmore.

CREDIT CARD POLICY

Dr. Hawthorne reported that during the past several years the Joint IDA credit card had been issued in the Joint IDA's name. A new credit card was recently issued because the old one will expire at the end of August this year. When the cards were received, it was found that one was issued for each employee, in his or her name, which will make the employee personally liable for all charges made on their respective card. The bank told us that the Joint IDA would have to open a new account and provide a large amount of information or leave the account as it was with the cards issued in the employees' names. Instead of going through that process, the employees have agreed to cover any expenses or purchases they might incur and submit receipts for reimbursement. The cards the Joint IDA presently has will be destroyed and the account will be closed. As of September 1, 2009 the Joint IDA will no longer have a credit card account. There was no discussion, the Board agreed with the decision.

PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. DiYorio made a motion to enter into a closed session as permitted by Section 2.2-3711(a)(5) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Code of Virginia to discuss unannounced projects. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jones, and passed unanimously. Ms. DiYorio made a motion, and Ms. Jones, seconded, to reconvene in an open session. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. DiYorio moved that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jones, and passed.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certificate by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certificate resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat.

Motion was passed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: William Snyder	Tom Jones
Dana Pack	Jennifer Jones
Linda DiYorio	

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: David Elmore
Foy Patton

ABSENT DURING VOTE: David Elmore
Foy Patton

OTHER

None

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p. m.

William Snyder, Chairman

Attest:

Virginia M. Goodwin, Secretary