

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
CIRCUIT COURTROOM, CUMBERLAND COURTHOUSE
CUMBERLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE COMPLEX
Thursday, April 7, 2022
6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Jack Lawhorne, Chairman
John Seal, Vice-Chairman
James Ennis, Director
Sharon Larson, Director
John Mistichelli, Director

ABSENT: Joe Hazlegrove, Director
Cheryl Boswell, Director
Brian Stanley, Board Liaison

ALSO PRESENT: Derek Stamey, County Administrator
Tiana Branch, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Jennifer Crews, Finance Director

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Jack Lawhorne, Chairman, called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Authority of Cumberland County, Virginia on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM and a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Director Ennis and seconded by Director Seal, the agenda was approved as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Director Ennis and seconded by Chairman Lawhorne, the minutes of the Economic Development Authority from the meeting on November 16, 2021 were approved as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

INTRODUCTION OF DEREK STAMEY, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator, Derek Stamey, introduced himself to the Directors and gave his perspective of his goals for the future of the County. He informed the Directors about internal projects currently being arranged by staff and Board of Supervisors including the Strategic Plan Workshop held by Supervisors on April 5, 2022. He explained to the Directors his goals and expectations of the Strategic Plan process and stated that he expects to bring industries and employment opportunities to residents in the future.

Mr. Stamey presented the Directors with an overview of BluDot, a company who will potentially be providing Economic Development services to county. BluDot is expected to develop a webpage that will highlight the information of all local businesses and create an electronic resource to citizens.

APPROVAL OF 2022 BY-LAWS

On a motion by Director Ennis and seconded by Director Mistichelli, the Economic Development Authority approved the 2022 By-Laws. The motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CODE OF ETHICS AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR 2022

On a motion by Director Seal and seconded by Director Mistichelli, the Economic Development Authority approved the Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct for 2022. The motion carried 5-0.

WILLIAM SHEWMAKE, GREEN RIDGE RECYCLING FACILITY UPDATE

Green Ridge Attorney, William Shewmake, presented the Directors with an update on the status of the Green Ridge Facility Project. He stated that the DEQ has determined their application complete so they are now going through a series of technical reviews. He explained the future steps in the process of getting the rest of the applications approved. He stated that he anticipates, if things go well, we could expect our permits in the next twelve months. Mr. Shewmake gave the Directors an update on the numerous opportunities Green Ridge has presented the county so far and expressed their continuance to support the county in economic growth in the future. Mr. Shewmake also expressed the positive impact the facility will have statewide in the future.

Director Ennis asked when did he expect the facility to open. Mr. Shewmake answered that he estimates eighteen months if everything goes or up to four years if they do not.

Director Seal asked how the one to three million figure was determined. Mr. Shewmake responded it depended on the amount of waste expected to be taken a day.

Chairman Lawhorne expressed his understanding of the need to dispose waste and his support for the project.

Director Mistichelli asked how many people does the facility plan to employ and if there was a clause stating that it had to be a certain percentage of Cumberland residents. Mr. Shewmake stated that he will need to verify the statistics and explained that there is a clause to give preference to residents of the county.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Lawhorne announced the Braven project was officially terminated in January. He stated that the building is now vacant and would love to see a tenant occupying it soon. Director Seal suggested posting a listing on a commercial site for potential offers.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Lawhorne made a motion and Director Ennis seconded to approved a revision to 2022 Meeting Schedule. The meeting previously scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022 will be changed to Wednesday, November 16, 2022. The motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lawhorne suggested that meeting location also be changed back the Conference Room of the Administration Building.

Director Seal made a proposal to look into the guidance from the state regarding advertisement of the Braven building. Director Ennis suggested they leave it in the hands of county staff.

Chairman Lawhorne suggested that Directors bring in speakers to educate one another on potential development opportunities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

None.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Director Ennis and seconded by Director Mistichelli the Authority adjourned the meeting until May 17, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., in the Downstairs Conference Room of the Administration Building.