

**JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF
FRANKLIN, HART AND STEPHENS COUNTIES**

**Minutes of Meeting
October 25, 2010**

The Joint Development Authority of Franklin, Hart and Stephens Counties met for the quarterly meeting on October 25, 2010 at the Currahee Campus of North Georgia Technical College in Stephens County.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Chairman Doug Cleveland. Members attending were Cary Bennett, Roy Crocker, Vernon Edwards, Bob Evans, Bill Leard, Ralph Owens, Cam Parker and Dean Scarborough. Also attending were Lyn Allen, Dwayne Dye, Tim Martin, Economic Developers, Jack Edmunds, treasurer and Pudge Smith, recording secretary.

Chairman Cleveland welcomed everyone and thanked Hart EMC for providing the meal.

Chairman Cleveland called for corrections or additions to the minutes of the July 26, 2010 meeting that had been provided via e-mail or mail. There being none, they were unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Treasurer Jack Edmunds presented a financial summary and asked for questions. On a motion by Mr. Leard and seconded by Mr. Parker, this report was unanimously accepted. Treasurer Edmunds also presented the audit for the year ended June 30, 2010 and asked for questions or comments. On a motion by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Scarborough, the audit was unanimously accepted. A copy of each is attached and made a part of the minutes.

Old Business

Ms. Allen reported for the Work Ready Program in Franklin County that they are working with Lake Shore Truss to become a Work Ready Company and that Ty Cobb has finished profiling and is ready to move forward.

Mr. Martin reported that although they are having some difficulty locating companies to profile, they continue to move forward with the Work Ready program.

Mr. Dye reported for Hart County that with 1,620 certificates, Hart County is well over the limit needed and has 7 companies either Work Ready required or preferred.

Mr. Martin reported that our three counties, plus Habersham County, will apply for a Work Ready grant of \$350,000 through the Governor's Office and the deadline is November 1.

Chairman Cleveland reminded each county of representatives whose term will expire at the end of this year:

Franklin County	Vernon Cape and Shuratt Whitworth
Hart County	Roy Crocker and Vernon Edwards
Stephens County	Don Foster and Cam Parker

Mr. Dye reported that the recent Tri-County Manufacturer's Luncheon was well received with good feedback.

New Business

Mr. Martin reported that the recent Senate Forum went well. Mr. Martin made the presentation for the joint authority with the help of Ms. Allen and Mr. Dye.

Mr. Scarborough brought the authority up to date on the passage of HB 277, the TSPLOST imitative. The funding of this initiative will be on the ballot in 2012. TSPLOST is a regional 13 county initiative and will have a 26 member board of representatives from those 13 counties.

Ms. Allen spoke of some anti-SPLOST movement in Franklin County for the renewal of the current SPLOST tax which will appear on the November ballot. Mr. Bennett is actively campaigning for this to pass.

Ms. Allen reported that the Ty Cobb hospital project is coming along. She reported that will close on November 26 resulting in a loss of 192 jobs and that Lake Shore Truss has closed but that business has moved to Mid-South Cage.

She also shared with the group that the authority has been invited to participate in 2011 Spring Workshop of GEDA to share in some of the successes of our joint authority. It is to be held May 18 - 20, 2011 at Sea Palms and the specific day and time for our presentation will be communicated later.

Mr. Martin reported on the GEDA conference in Savannah. He said the JDA entertained 6 project managers during this conference. He was pleased to announce two new industries in Stephens County – Crown Resources and G.M. Wood Products. He encouraged everyone to visit Haystone Industrial Park to see progress there.

Mr. Dye reported on the recent Ag-Strong expansion announcement and that the Quality Industries rail spur project has been closed out. He also reported that a couple of industries in Hart County have experienced expansions with a combined addition in jobs of approximately 150.

The next meeting was announced for January 24, 2011 in Franklin County.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**M.S. Smith
Recording Secretary**