

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

Minutes of Meeting

July 24, 2017

The quarterly meeting of the Joint Development Authority of Franklin, Hart and Stephens Counties was held Monday, July 24, 2017 at the Toccoa-Stephens County Airport in Toccoa, Georgia.

Members attending were: Vernon Cape, Doug Cleveland, Roy Crocker, Vernon Edwards, Bob Evans, Bill Leard, Ralph Owens, Greg Roach, Dean Scarborough and Gerald Voyles. Also present: Economic Developers, Dwayne Dye, Frank Ginn, Tim Martin, Secretary M. S. Smith, Jack Edmunds, Kathy Papa, Department of Community Affairs, Joel Katz, Doug Collins Office, Tonya Powers, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and Elizabeth Jones, Stephens County Economic Development Authority Office.

Chairman Cleveland called the meeting to order and welcomed guests. Mr. Dye gave the invocation.

Mr. Leard called for a correction of the April 24, 2017 minutes to show that he was not in attendance. Mr. Edwards made a motion to accept as corrected, Mayor Owens seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as corrected.

Ms. Smith presented a financial summary as of June 30, 2017. This report was accepted on a motion by Mr. Scarborough and seconded by Mr. Evans. (Copy attached)

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Leard, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the following nominations:

Chairman	Doug Cleveland
Vice Chairman	Brian James
Secretary	Bill Leard
Recording Secretary	M. S. Smith
and Treasurer	

Mr. Scarborough made a motion that nominations be closed and the proposed slate of officers be accepted. Mr. Roach seconded this motion and it passed.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS REPORTS

Mr. Ginn, Franklin County

Good News Gathering at Chateau Elan last week was well attended

Good activity with new restaurants in area

Continuing progress with Franklin County Industrial Park

Mr. Martin, Stephens County

Welcomed group to the airport facility and gave brief history noting the addition of the terminal two years ago

Introduced Elizabeth Jones, assistant to director who reported on completion of bypass and gave brief update on Veterans Parkway project

Mr. Dye, Hart County

Reported that prospect activity is very strong

Unemployment in Hart County at 4.5 %

College and Career Academy to open in August and local industries to be invited to tour new facility

Lavonia sewer project still progressing

GEDA scheduled for September 20 - 22 and the 21st will be a presentation at Jekyll Island to the Carl Vincent Institute

Kathy Papa, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, reported on HB 73, Rural Revitalization program and gave some particulars on qualifications etc.

Joel Katz, Office of Congressman Doug Collins, made brief comments regarding activity from this office.

Chairman Cleveland asked Mr. Martin to update the authority on the broadband project at the next meeting.

The next meeting was announced for October 23, 2017 in Franklin County.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

**M. S. Smith
Secretary**