

JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF
FRANKLIN, HART AND STEPHENS COUNTIES

Minutes of Meeting

October 24, 2016

The quarterly meeting of the Joint Development Authority of Franklin, Hart and Stephens Counties held their quarterly meeting on Monday, October 24, 2016 at the Schaefer Performing Arts Center in Toccoa, Georgia.

Members attending were: Doug Cleveland, Roy Crocker, Vernon Edwards, Bob Evans, Don Foster, Brian James, Bill Leard, Greg Roach and Dean Scarborough. Also present were: Economic Developers, Dwayne Dye and Tim Martin; Jack Edmunds and M. S. Smith, Secretary. Guests were: Amy Turner, Office of Senator Isakson; Andrew Seaver, Office of Senator Perdue and Kathy Papa, Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Jack Edmunds gave the invocation and dinner followed.

A brief history of the renovated theatre was presented as well as an overview of future events for the theatre.

On a motion by Mr. Foster and seconded by Mr. Evans, the minutes of the July 25, 2016 meeting were approved.

Ms. Smith presented a financial summary as of September 30, 2016. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Mr. Leard and seconded by Mr. Evans.

Mr. Cleveland presented each member with an audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Mr. Roach recommended that this audit be approved at the next quarterly meeting in January.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS REPORTS

Mr. Martin reported on project activity stating that much of the interest is from German and Chinese companies. He stated that several existing companies are in an expansion mode.

Mr. Martin presented a plaque to Chairman Cleveland on behalf of the authority stating that the Georgia General Assembly has designated the North Georgia Network a "Giga Bit" community.

Mr. James reported in Mr. Ginn's absence that work has begun on the industrial park in Carnesville.

Mr. Dye reported that the GEDA conference held recently in Savannah was well attended. He stated that a ribbon cutting for Linde+Wiemann is anticipated to take place in the spring of 2017. He updated the group on the Haering project. He stated that RITZ is expanding and this will create 50 more jobs.

Mr. Roach reported to the group that enrollment is up at the Currahee Campus of North Georgia Technical College. He also stated there is a challenge to attract more students to manufacturing careers and readying them for jobs in these high tech areas.

Ms. Papa, Ms. Turner and Mr. Seaver each made brief comments on items of interest from their offices.

Mr. Evans made brief comments on his concern in the area of support for technical schools from high schools.

The next meeting was announced for January 23, 2017

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

M. S. Smith
Secretary