

HARDEE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(INDEPENDENT BOARD)
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
412 WEST ORANGE STREET, ROOM 102
WAUCHULA, FLORIDA 33873
SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 8:30 A.M.

MINUTES

Members:

David Royal, Vice-Chairman, P
Bill Beattie, P
Paul Samuels, P
Jama Abbott, P
Roger Hood, P

Bridget Merrill, P
Perry Knight, P
Bill Lambert, Chairman, P
Bobby Smith, A

County Attorney Ken Evers, P
Office Manager Sandy Meeks, P

County Manager Lexton H. Albritton, Jr., P

Chairman Lambert called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

MOTION by Royal, second by Hood to approve the agenda with the addition of Item XII. Discuss calendar for 2008/2009. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION by Merrill, second by Knight to approve the August 12, 2008, regular meeting minutes with the deletion of the word "back" on Page Two; Item IV.; B. and on Page Four; Item VIII; Second Paragraph correcting Ida to IDA. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- I. Acknowledge receipt of the Clerk's Financial Report for period ending 08/31/08.

Chairman Lambert advised for the minutes to reflect the Board had received the Clerk's Financial Report for period ending 08/31/08.

- II. Request approval and acknowledge Chairman's signature on agreement with the Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$625,000.

MOTION by Royal, second by Beattie to approve and acknowledge Chairman's signature on agreement with the Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$625,000. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- III. Request approval and authorization for Chairman to sign agreement with the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners in the amount of \$150,000.

MOTION by Royal, second by Abbott to approve and authorization for Chairman to sign agreement with the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners in the amount of \$150,000. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- IV. Request approval and authorization for Chairman to sign agreement with the Heartland Property And Casualty Insurance Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,500,000.

Merrill advised the agreement that was before the Board was an Infrastructure Agreement not a Job Creation Agreement. County Manager Albritton advised that was an error by Staff. After further discussion, County Attorney Evers advised if they wanted to just

approve the agreement and then Staff could work on correcting the agreement or they could bring it back at their next meeting. County Manager Albritton advised they could approve it pending County Attorney's review and then once the agreement was finalized, they could e-mail to each board member for any comments. After further discussion, **MOTION by Royal, second by Beattie** to approve and authorization for Chairman to sign agreement pending County Attorney's review. Abbott asked if they would be able to review the agreement after the County Attorney corrected it. County Manager Albritton advised they could e-mail it. Chairman Lambert asked if this would be in violation of the Sunshine Law. County Attorney Evers advised if there were a lot of comments they would need to have a special meeting. After further discussion, Royal withdrew his motion and **MOTION by Merrill, second by Samuels** the agreement would be approved subject to County Attorney's review and if there was more than one comment that could not be resolved, they would have to have a special meeting, otherwise it would be considered done at this meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** County Manager Albritton reminded the Board that they (Heartland Property & Casualty Insurance Company) were being awarded \$1,500,000 for the creation of 15 jobs and that would be what they (Staff) evaluated.

- V. Request approval of budget amendment form transferring \$179,586 to the reserve for disbursement line to cover grant award amounts awarded for Cycle Three.

County Manager Albritton explained the reason for the budget amendment regarding the Less 5% and interest. **MOTION by Royal, second by Merrill** to approve budget amendment form transferring \$179,586 to the reserve for disbursement line to cover grant award amounts awarded for Cycle Three. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- VI. Request approval of budget amendment sheet transferring monies into accounts for grant award agreements awarded for Cycle Three.

Chairman Lambert explained this was a formality. Merrill questioned why the Board was approving items "after the fact". County Manager Albritton explained they could approve these transfers when they actually approved the contracts. Merrill asked if they could just acknowledge receipt of the forms. County Manager Albritton advised they could. **MOTION by Knight, second by Hood** to acknowledge receipt of the budget amendment sheet transferring monies into accounts for the grant award agreements awarded for Cycle Three. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- VII. Request approval of the Budget for FY 08/09.

County Manager Albritton explained they would not be receiving any monies until May or June, so the budget was just an estimate. Chairman Lambert explained that the amounts on the budget were conservative. **MOTION by Merrill, second by Royal** to approve the Budget for FY 08/09. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- VIII. Request approval of the Reimbursement Sheet for FY 07/08.

MOTION by Knight, second by Abbott to approve the Reimbursement Sheet for FY 07/08. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- IX. Request approval of the Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's Report dated September 30, 2007.

Merrill questioned why the report had taken so long. Lita McHugh, Senior Audit Manger, The NCT Group, explained that the Board was required to file by September 30, 2008, but at the state level they still had the Board listed as the Dependent Board and had not created the Independent Board and in order to file the report on-line these necessary steps had to be taken. **MOTION by Samuels, second by Knight** to approve the Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's Report dated September 30, 2007. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- X. Request approval and authorization for Chairman to sign the arrangement letter with The NCT Group CPA's, L.L.P.

MOTION by Royal, second by Hood to approve and authorization for Chairman to sign the arrangement letter with The NCT Group CPA's, L.L.P. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- XI. Request approval and acknowledge Chairman's signature on the Florida Department of Community Affairs 2007/2008 Special District Fee Invoice and Update Form.

MOTION by Merrill, second by Abbott to approve and acknowledge Chairman's signature on the Florida Department of Community Affairs 2007/2008 Special District Fee Invoice and Update Form. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- XII. Discuss Calendar for 2008/2009.

Merrill advised she thought they should discuss the calendar since there were some conflicts with them meeting on the second Tuesday. After further discussion, **MOTION by Merrill, second by Samuels** to build the advertised meeting dates on the 4th Tuesday and if there was a conflict, Staff was directed to amend the conflicting dates to the 1st or 3rd Tuesday. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 09:35 a.m.

William R. Lambert, Jr., Chairman