

**HARDEE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOINT WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JULY 02, 2013 6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, ROOM 102
COURTHOUSE ANNEX
412 WEST ORANGE STREET, WAUCHULA, FLORIDA**

MINUTES

Hardee County Economic Development Authority

Members:

David Royal, Chairman, P	Stanley Pelham, P
Terry Atchley, P	Perry Knight, P
Kenny Miller, P	Sue Birge, Vice-Chairperson, P
Roger Hood, P	Casey Dickson, P

County Attorney Ken Evers, P	County Manager Lexton H. Albritton, Jr., P
	Office Manager Sandra Meeks, P

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Hardee County

Commissioners:	District I	Colon Lambert, P
	District II	Sue Birge, Chairperson, P
	District III	Rick Knight, Vice-Chairperson, P
	District IV	Grady Johnson, P
	District V	Mike Thompson, P

County Manager Lexton H. Albritton, Jr., P	Office Manager Sandy Meeks, P
Clerk Victoria L. Rogers, A	Deputy Clerk Laura Barker, P
County Attorney Ken Evers, P	

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Chairman Royal called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the pledge to the flag.

Chairperson Birge called the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners to order.

Chairman Royal explained the only ground rule for the meeting was there would not be any questions allowed. He explained the meeting was for the presentations only. He further explained the time to ask the questions would be during the regular meetings of the County, Cities, or the Economic Development Authority. He also stated the purpose of the meeting was so that everyone could here the presentations at the same time.

I. Presentation by Jerry Conerly for the City of Bowling Green Industrial Park Project.

Jerry Conerly, City Manager, City of Bowling Green had a power point presentation outlining Bowling Green's project. He had some pictures of downtown Bowling Green and provided some statistics. He had an aerial map of the project location for the Centanino Commerce Park. He also touched on how Phase I, II, and III had been funded by the EDA Board and now they were at Phase IV Industrial Park Construction. He has several maps of the proposed layout of the park with drawings of the entrance, sidewalks, and even and playground they wanted to add. He also

touched on how they had divided the construction into two Phases. Phase I would be \$983,443 and Phase II would be \$677,917 with a total cost of \$1,661,360.

II. Presentation by Robin Boni for the business expansion project for Cantu Apiaries.

Mrs. Robin Boni, Executive Assistant, Cantu Apiaries, Inc., provided each board member with a handout outlining their request. She touched on the beekeeping department, construction and renovation needed, equipment needed, and the manufacturing aspect of their business and what would be needed to be able to do this portion on their own. The total for their request was \$2,999,300. They would need around 30 employees to start.

III. Presentation by Trey Flemer for the Peace River Paddlesports and Kuleana Adventures, Inc., Project.

Mr. Trey Flemer had a power point presentation outlining his project. He touched on who he was and where he had worked in the past. He provided some information on the industry with standup paddleboards. He touched on his product and explained how they were unique in that they were designed to carry gear inside the hull, used as a kayak, windsurfer or standup paddleboard, retractable tail fin, built tough as nails, and was the most versatile water craft. He then touched on his business model and the rental and retail side. He also explained how he planned on promoting his business and his current exposure. He touched on the local benefits and industry supporters and endorsements. He then explained the current plan and what he needed to get the business moving. His request was for \$200,000.

IV. Presentation by Bill Lambert/Sarah Pelham for the IDA/EDC projects.

Krystin Chapman, Communication Coordinator, Hardee County Economic Development Office had a power point presenting outlining their requests. She explained the accomplishments for 2012/2013 and their goals for 2013/2014. She also had a slide representing their partners and a slide that showed how economic development was important to all the agencies.

Sarah Pelham, Economic Development Coordinator, Hardee County Economic Development Office spoke regarding the spec buildings and how important they were to economic development. She had slides showing all the spec buildings the Board had funded in the past. She also touched on Broadband and how important it was to our community. She touched on what sets Hardee County apart from other counties and how the spec buildings work. She also touched on the proof that the spec buildings were working.

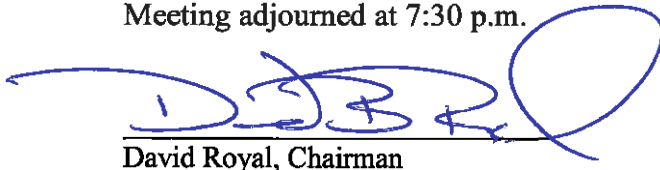
She then introduced Brian Patterson, Vice President of Sales, Florikan and explained they were one of the companies that were wanting to relocate to Hardee County and utilize one of the spec buildings.

Mr. Patterson had a power point presentation explaining the potential business relocation to Hardee County. He touched on who Florikan was and what they did. He also touched on their recognitions and their current employee breakdown. He explained they would have approximately 20-30 employees working out of the Hardee County facility. He also touched on their sales and their growth. He explained their need for relocation and their timeline.

Mr. Bill Lambert, Executive Director, Hardee County Economic Development Office spoke regarding their last request for the water sewer corridor. He explained how infrastructure needed to precede economic development and how in Hardee County the bulk of the industrial or commercial area was focused near Highway 17. He also touched on how they had to have water and sewer to develop the area and how water was most important because if you don't have water, you don't have fire suppression and if you don't have fire suppression, you cannot build a building. He explained how the City of Wauchula, Town of Zolfo Springs, and the City of Bowling Green had their systems and how the county had interconnected with the City of Wauchula north almost to Paynes Creek, but there were gaps that were mainly south from Wauchula to Zolfo Springs. He further explained how they funded this request during their last cycle and they had a contract with Killebrew, Inc. He touched on how important it was for this request, but also stated that if they did not fund this he wasn't sure they would run out of money because coordination with the city and the county has been slow and tedious but did state he thought they would see some progress this year. He closed in stating that as they considered the applications just remember that infrastructure needed to occur either before economic development or occur simultaneous.

V. Close & Adjourn meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



David Royal, Chairman