

December 21, 2005

The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat postponed its December 15, 2005, board meeting due to inclement weather. The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 21, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Wytheville Municipal Building located at 150 East Monroe Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman	William F. Snyder, Vice Chairman
George T. Johnstone, Treasurer	Robert J. Ayers
David L. Elmore	Danny B. Gordon

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gerald L. Brewer

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator
Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager
C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Freeman called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present. Dr. Hawthorne offered the invocation, and Mr. Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' TIME

Mr. Freeman asked if there were any persons present who wished to address the board during citizens' time. Dr. Hawthorne used this time to thank Mr. Ayers for his service to the Joint IDA, and informed the board that Dr. David Johnson will be joining the board in January.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 17, 2005, Board Meeting and December 1, 2005, Working Session

Dr. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2005, meeting as revised. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ayers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to approve the Working Session minutes as revised. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Ms. Pack commented that the invoice list includes all checks since the last meeting. Mr. Johnstone asked about check # 4755, and Dr. Hawthorne explained that was the incentive money to The Haskell Corporation for the grading of the Gatorade lot. Mr. Johnstone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ayers, to pay the invoices as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Joint IDA of Wythe County Check Register

For the Period From Nov 18, 2005 to Dec 21, 2005

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Check Number.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount
1037	11/22/05	Hodges & Campbell	60.00
4747	11/22/05	Appalachian Power	50.73
4748	11/22/05	Alan Hawthorne - Reimbursement	422.80
4749	11/22/05	Anthem Southeast Dental	90.76
4750	11/22/05	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,404.32
4751	11/22/05	Chamber of Commerce	250.00
4752	11/22/05	Companion Life Insurance Co	75.14
4753	11/22/05	D&D Trophies	540.00
4754	11/22/05	Fort Dearborn Life Ins Co	26.85
4755	11/22/05	The Haskell Company	700,000.00
4756	11/22/05	Mike Webb-Reimbursement	73.70
4757	11/22/05	The Mount Rogers Dev Partnersh	6,899.76
4758	11/22/05	PC SOS, Inc.	240.00
4759	11/22/05	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
4760	11/22/05	Sprint PCS	11.52
4761	11/22/05	Sprint	126.32
4762	11/22/05	Sprint	8.68
4763	11/22/05	Bankcard Services	169.02
4764	11/22/05	Xerox	267.86
4765	11/22/05	Alan R. Hawthorne	3,615.52
4766	11/22/05	Angela D. Pack	1,692.92
4767	11/22/05	Michael B. Webb	2,050.37
4768	11/22/05	First Bank of Virginia	2,792.04
4769	11/22/05	VA Dept Of Taxation	463.21
4770	11/22/05	Treasurer of Virginia	60.00
4771	12/21/05	Appalachian Power	86.56
4772	12/21/05	Alan Hawthorne - Reimbursement	694.05
4773	12/21/05	Angela D. Pack	35.41
4774	12/21/05	Anthem Southeast Dental	90.76
4775	12/21/05	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,404.32
4776	12/21/05	Companion Life Insurance Co	75.14
4777	12/21/05	Wytheville Enterprise	42.00
4778	12/21/05	Fort Dearborn Life Ins Co	26.85
4779	12/21/05	JIDA Petty Cash	59.85

4780	12/21/05	Mike Webb-Reimbursement	11.16
4781	12/21/05	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
4782	12/21/05	Robinson, Farmer, Cox Assoc.	2,700.00
4783	12/21/05	Sprint	124.37
4784	12/21/05	Sprint	10.80
4785	12/21/05	Bankcard Services	78.78
4786	12/21/05	Xerox	267.86
4787	12/21/05	Alan R. Hawthorne	3,615.52
4788	12/21/05	Angela D. Pack	1,692.92
4789	12/21/05	David L. Elmore	207.79
4790	12/21/05	Daniel B. Gordon	207.79
4791	12/21/05	Gerald L. Brewer	207.79
4792	12/21/05	George T. Johnstone	207.79
4793	12/21/05	Joseph W. Freeman	207.79
4794	12/21/05	Michael B. Webb	2,050.37
4795	12/21/05	Robert J. Ayers	207.79
4796	12/21/05	William F. Snyder	207.79
4797	12/21/05	First Bank of Virginia	3,032.98
4798	12/21/05	VA Dept Of Taxation	463.21
Total			741,608.96

OLD BUSINESS

FAIRVIEW ZONING REQUEST STATUS

Mr. Steve Moore, Assistant Town Manager of Wytheville, was present to address questions regarding zoning changes in Fairview Industrial Park. Mr. Moore noted that a committee addressed the expiration of the Fairview covenants and developed a draft of a new zoning district that could be adopted for Fairview Industrial Park. He explained that the process is long and involves public hearings for both the Planning Commission and Town Council. Mr. Freeman asked if landowners had seen the draft, and Mr. Webb responded that they had. Mr. Freeman asked if anyone objected to the new zoning draft. Mr. Webb explained that one manager did, but that manager acknowledged that it was not his decision to make. A copy was sent to his company's corporate office, and there has been no response. Mr. Webb asked if the Joint IDA needed to make the change request or if the individual landowners must do so. Mr. Moore explained that it could be either way and recommended that the Joint IDA send a petition letter to individual landowners. He noted that the Planning Commission would likely want to see delineated boundaries and that adjacent landowners would have a chance to influence the Planning Commission's and Town Council's votes. Dr. Hawthorne asked who could request a zoning change for the fifty-one acres in the rear of Fairview Industrial Park if a buy/sell agreement for the property is in place. Mr. Moore stated that either party could do so if such an agreement were in place.

FAIRVIEW PROPERTY SALE NEGOTIATION STATUS

Dr. Snyder made motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to enter into closed session as permitted by

Section 2.2-3711(A)(30) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Code of Virginia to discuss the scope and terms of a specified contract regarding the recent Joint IDA RFP. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Snyder made motion, seconded by Mr. Ayers, to reconvene in open session. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Snyder moved that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Motion was seconded by Mr. Elmore and passed.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certificate by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certificate resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat.

Motion was passed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Joe Freeman
William Snyder
Robert Ayers
David Elmore
Danny Gordon
George Johnstone

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Gerald Brewer

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Gerald Brewer

JOINT IDA HOLIDAY-OPEN HOUSE

Dr. Hawthorne noted that due to bad weather, only three people attended the Joint IDA open house.

OTHER

Dr. Hawthorne extended his thanks to the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce for allowing the Joint IDA to participate in the annual Chamber dinner.

NEW BUSINESS

SUMMARY OF BOARD WORKING SESSION

Dr. Hawthorne explained that the working session minutes could serve as the summary, and the board's consensus was to agree with Dr. Hawthorne.

REPORT ON VEDP ALLIES MEETING, GOVERNOR'S SYMPOSIUM ON WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DBA SEMINAR AND VEDP DISTRIBUTION TASK FORCE

Dr. Hawthorne provided updates of recent meetings he attended. He explained that the semi-annual VEDP Allies served as an opportunity to meet the new VEDP Executive Director Jeff Anderson. Dr. Hawthorne explained that he attended the governor's symposium designed to bridge the gap between workforce training and economic development. He also attended the Department of Business of Assistant Quarterly Seminar on his way back from the symposium. Finally, he attended the VEDP Distribution Task Force meeting where the keynote topic was a case study of Wythe County's Gatorade project.

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT

The board reviewed the audit report. Dr. Hawthorne asked that it be accepted so that copies could be sent to the jurisdictions and other appropriate agencies. Mr. Gordon asked if the audit was on the Joint IDA website, and Dr. Hawthorne explained that traditionally it had not been placed on the website. Mr. Gordon asked if it should be included in the minutes. Supervisor Bucky Sharitz, who was in attendance, reported that the Town of Wytheville does not include its audit in the minutes and neither does Wythe County. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ayers, to accept the financial audit. The motion passed unanimously. The 2005 audit report and audit reports from earlier years are available at the Joint IDA office located at 190 South First Street, Wytheville, Virginia 24382.

JOINT IDA 2006 CALENDAR

The board reviewed the proposed 2006 calendar. Dr. Hawthorne explained that the

September meeting is scheduled for the third Thursday of the month because the fourth Thursday falls so late in the month that it complicates timely payment of invoices. He stated that the Virginia Economic Developers Association meeting is also scheduled for the fourth Thursday in September in Roanoke. Dr. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to approve the calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

JOB FAIR UPDATE

Dr. Hawthorne displayed the job fair website for the board to review. Mr. Gordon asked about the advertising schedule, and Dr. Hawthorne explained that the committee plans to begin advertising in January. Mr. Gordon extended an invitation for the job fair planners to be interviewed weekly on “The Danny G Show” throughout the month of January.

WEBSITE REVIEW AND STATISTICS

Dr. Hawthorne shared a slide show covering the Joint IDA website including “hits” it has received since 2003 and which pages are the most frequently visited. He reminded the board that the Joint IDA was awarded a grant from the Virginia’s Opportunities Region (VOR) for website improvement. There is another round of applications being accepted until December 31, 2005, and preference is given for regional collaboration projects. Dr. Hawthorne wanted to partner with Bland County for another VOR grant, but Bland County is not eligible for VOR funding. Smyth County is eligible, but does not need the funds. Dr. Hawthorne approached Pulaski County, but they have yet to decide if they want to apply. Mr. Johnstone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gordon, for the Joint IDA to seek Pulaski County’s assistance if possible. The motion passed unanimously.

PROJECT UPDATES (CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY VIRGINIA CODE §2.2-3711(A)(5))

Dr. Snyder made a motion to enter into closed session as permitted by Section 2.2-3711(A)(5) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Code of Virginia to discuss unannounced projects. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnstone and passed unanimously. Dr. Snyder made motion, and Mr. Johnstone seconded, to reconvene in open session. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Snyder made a motion that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Motion was seconded by Mr. Brewer and passed.

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Motion was passed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Joe Freeman	William Snyder
Robert Ayers	Danny Gordon
David Elmore	George Johnstone

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Gerald Brewer

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Gerald Brewer

OTHER

Dr. Hawthorne shared a request from the Wythe County Planning Commission. The Commission is working on capital improvement planning and requested comments on economic development improvements from the Joint IDA. Dr. Hawthorne proposed that board members think this over and provide comments to him. In the meantime, he will draft an official response so the board can review it at its next meeting. The consensus of the board was to accept Dr. Hawthorne's proposed strategy.

Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board members that their Annual Statements of Economic Interests are due by January 15, 2006.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman

ATTEST:

Angela D. Pack, Secretary