



DACC BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 26, 2014

Center for Trade & Tourism
1000 Business Boulevard
Evans, GA 30809

Board Attendees (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*))

Doug Duncan, Chairman	Stan Shepherd	Hugh Hollar*
Mark Wills, Vice-Chairman	Jean Garniewicz	Mike Holliman
Rick Evans, Secretary-Treasurer	Phil Gaffney	

Staff (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*))

Robbie Bennett, Executive Director
Karen Eyink, Executive Assistant
Douglas D. Batchelor, Legal Counsel*
Chris Driver, Legal Counsel

Guests Present:

Chairman Ron Cross, <i>CC Commissioner</i>	Nayna Mistry, <i>Planning Department</i>
Bill Morris, <i>CC Commissioner</i>	Michael Rorick, <i>Citizen</i>
Thom Tuckey, <i>CSRA Alliance Ft. Gordon</i>	

I. Call to Order & Welcome

Chairman Doug Duncan called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and declared a quorum present.

II. Reading and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Duncan asked the Board to review and approve the agenda for the March 26, 2014 DACC board meeting. Motion made by Rick Evans to approve the agenda. Jean Garniewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Duncan asked the Board to review and approve the minutes for the February 26, 2014 DACC Board Meeting. Motion made by Rick Evans to approve the minutes. Mark Wills seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. Financials – Rick Evans

From the Statement of Net Assets – February 28, 2014, Total Assets are \$671,958.84 includes Investment in the Horizon South Industrial Bldg. (Spec Bldg.) of \$267,083.39; however, closing of the Spec Bldg. was held on March 18, those funds deposited into the Development Savings Account.

Total cash in Checking/Savings is \$399,320.01, Account Receivables \$5,555.44 and Total Liabilities of \$1073.00, for Total Net Assets of \$670,885.84.

In the Statement of Activities by Class – One Month Ended – February 28, 2014, total income of \$15,550.70, total expense \$21,499.07 and interest revenue \$131.39 for a change of net assets of \$5,816.98.

Mark Wills made a motion to approve February 28, 2014 financials. Phil Gaffney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

V. Chairman's Report – Doug Duncan

No Chairman's' report for the month.

VI. Committee Reports – Doug Duncan

Rick Evans, Chair of the Retail Development Sub-Committee reported the committee met on March 19. Guest speaker was John Engler, Vice President of McKnight Properties. The committee was given a conceptual site plan of the land on Mason H. McKnight Jr. Blvd. Discussions included prospective retailers, traffic and infrastructure.

Mark Wills, Chair of the Property Development Committee reported the sign at the entrance of Augusta Technical College – Grovetown Campus has been erected. On March 18, the Development Authority closed on the Horizon South Industrial Bldg. (Spec Building).

Phil Gaffney, Chair of the Existing Business Development and Workforce Development Committee met on Wednesday, March 11. The committee reviewed a roster of local businesses that pay occupational tax. In addition, the committee is planning to host a breakfast at the DACC office focusing on the transportation industry, workforce, in how the education system (Augusta Tech and CCBOE) can assist local companies.

Stan Shepherd, Chair of the Business Recruitment and Incentives Program Committee mentioned the committee met on March 6, and worked on additional information for the logo and website.

VII. Economic Development – Robbie Bennett

1. Robbie mentioned the announcement of GIW's expansion showcasing what the opportunities are in their workforce.
2. The DACC is working on 13 active projects, some include existing industry. Also, 5 new leads ranging from small to large retail and hotels, 1 site tour for one of the projects and two marketing events. Those events included the Georgia Logistics Summit in Atlanta and co-hosted the Georgia's VIP International Delegation
3. The DACC's website has received 352 visits, 258 were unique visits. The numbers are increasing; interest includes the incentives information and sites and buildings pages. Robbie showed the new logo and website during the board meeting. Additional information and photos are being updated; the main focus on the website is Fort Gordon, healthcare, education and sites and buildings database. The website will be live shortly.
4. The DACC has received three new inquiries on the Opportunity Zone.
5. Robbie reviewed the 2014 Masters housing and invitation list.

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1000 Business Boulevard | Evans, Georgia 30809

(O): +1 (706) 312-1375 | (F): +1 (706) 312-1374

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VIII. Old Business – Doug Duncan

Robbie mentioned the Georgia Department of Community Affairs did an external audit; one item that was brought up about best practices for development authorities was the code of ethics. Robbie spoke to Chris Driver, DACC legal counsel and suggested to add new wording to the Development Authority's By-Laws. Under Article 3, the line was added – The Board shall adhere to the Georgia's State Code of Ethics (O.G.G.A § 45-10-3).

Rick Evans made a motion to add the Code of Ethics line to the By-Laws. Mark Willis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IX. New Business – Doug Duncan

None at this time.

X. Calendar of Events – Doug Duncan

The next Development Authority board meeting will be held on April 23, 2014 – 7:30 a.m. at the DACC's office – Center for Trade & Tourism, 1000 Business Blvd., Evans, GA 30809.

XI. Public Comment

Thom Tuckey of CSRA Alliance of Fort Gordon mentioned the US Army Cyber command has a partnership with the Huntsville, Alabama school district to teach cyber in their schools. Richmond and Columbia County Board of Education, GRU and Fort Gordon will travel to Huntsville on April 16 to meet with the superintendent and see what the partnership entails.

Nayna Mistry, Planning Manager of Columbia County Planning Department mentioned the Columbia County Board of Commissioners appointed the Steering Committee for the Growth Management Plan (GMP). The first meeting is Thursday, March 27 at 6:00 pm, Building B in the main conference room; the event is open to the public. The committee will review the RFP for the consultant; there will be several public meetings throughout the year.

Chairman Ron Cross mentioned the county has a tenant for the previous Rhodes Murphy building, minor renovations will take place and will be occupied on July 1. Chairman Cross also discussed the possibility of a partnership between the County and the Development Authority regarding establishing a private sector internship program to support industry workforce needs.

Commissioner Bill Morris mentioned the Exhibition Center in Grovetown is a great facility and resource for Columbia County.

Michael Rorick, citizen of Columbia County mentioned an interview he recently heard on NPR news concerning the workforce in the United States.

XII. Closed Session – Doug Duncan

No closed session.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Duncan adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:

Robbie Bennett, Executive Director
Development Authority of Columbia County