



EDACC Board Meeting Minutes						
December 18, 2024			7:30 AM		EDACC Conference Room	
Meeting called by	Chairman, Rick Evans - called the meeting to order @ 7:30					
Type of meeting	Board Meeting					
Facilitator	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Note taker	Linda Peplau					
Adjourned	8:34 AM					
Board Attendance	Mark Wills	Y	Rick Evans	Y	Sanjeev Singhal	Y
	Jim Cox	ABSENT	Jean Garniewicz	Y	Stan Shepherd	Y
	Mark Herbert	Y	Kerry Bridges	Y	Ben Stapleton	Y
Staff/Guests	Cheney Eldridge, Chris Driver (via phone) , Anita Patel, Stuart Hilsman, Linda Peplau, Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE), Commissioner, Connie Melear (CCBOC), Dr. Tom Clark (The Alliance for Fort Eisenhower) & Skyler Andrews (Augusta Press)					
Meeting Agenda						
1 minute	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Discussion	Chairman Rick Evans calls for a motion to jointly approve the agenda for the December 18, 2024, EDACC Board Meeting & the minutes for the November 20, 2024, EDACC Board Meeting.					
Conclusions	Motion: Mark Wills 2nd: Mark Herbert Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)					
Minutes of Previous Meeting						
1 minute	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Discussion	See above.					
Conclusions	Motion: Mark Wills 2nd: Mark Herbert Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)					
DACC Financial Report						
6 minutes	Treasurer, Mark Wills					
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports on annual audit - currently in review.</li> <li>• Approval of prior financial reports -will be approved at the start of the new year (2025).</li> <li>• Page 5, county appropriations updates. Chairman, Rick Evans, elaborated further on the appropriations make up schedule.</li> <li>• Budget revisions update (January 2025's financial report will reflect the changes).</li> <li>• Page 7 &amp; 8, gives a budget, revenue &amp; expense report.</li> </ul>					
Conclusions	This is only a draft. Waiting to see if auditors have any changes. Audit is currently in review.					

Chairman's Report	
5 minutes	Chairman, Rick Evans
Discussion	Chairman, Rick Evans shares the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives thanks to the board members, staff &amp; county commissioners for all their support throughout the year.</li> <li>• Shared a 2024 EDACC progress report (staffing &amp; successes).</li> <li>• Reported on the last JDA meeting (12/03/2024).</li> </ul>
DACC Committee Reports	
2 minutes	Sanjeev Singhal for Business Recruitment & Incentive Program Committee
Discussion	Sanjeev Singhal shared the following committee meeting topics for Business Recruitment & Incentive Program Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destination Retail update (Smoke Show BBQ).</li> <li>• Electric vehicle industry in our community and the changes to come/possible impacts.</li> <li>• EDACC's position/status with state projects &amp; state project managers.</li> <li>• Entertainment zones (sectors, restrictions &amp; hours).</li> </ul>
Project Updates	
4 minutes	Stuart Hilsman
Discussion	Stuart Hilsman shares the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project report update.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 new projects</li> <li>○ 12 total projects for the year of 2024</li> <li>○ 2727 Potential jobs</li> <li>○ 7 current active projects (5 of the 7 are in White Oak).</li> <li>○ Masters project potential report - \$7.5 billion potential project dollars coming from Masters week.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Future project ideas for White Oak (filling the need of the current tenants &amp; the surrounding communities).               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Daycare needs for the area.</li> <li>○ Restaurants &amp; gas.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Economic Development Update	
5 minutes	Executive Director, Cheney Eldridge
Discussion	Executive Director, Cheney Eldridge shares the following updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Retreat rescheduling discussions (new date options- 02.27.2025- 02.28.2025).</li> <li>• Board training - working on getting Dan McRae to come to our office for a one day training session.</li> <li>• Thanks the entire board and staff for their support and help during her 1st year as ED.</li> </ul>

## Public Comments

18 minutes	County Commissioner, Connie Melear, Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE), & Dr. Tom Clark (The Alliance for Fort Eisenhower)
Discussion	<p>County Commissioner, Connie Melear shares the following county updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared a post hurricane debris update (expense, Gov. funding/reimbursement &amp; tally per tons/truck loads).             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FEMA update.</li> <li>○ WebEOC (emergency mgmt.) reporting update.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Update on the county's consolidation/incorporation proposal.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE), shares the following school updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares school holiday break dates.</li> <li>• Staff updates (retiring staff).</li> <li>• Progress report on school construction.</li> <li>• E-SPLOST renewal update (approved/vote passed).</li> <li>• Post hurricane Helene clean up updates.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Tom Clark (The Alliance for Fort Eisenhower), shares the following Fort Eisenhower updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block/holiday leave for military personnel (dates &amp; community impact).</li> <li>• Construction update for the new I-20 interchange/connector to Fort Eisenhower.</li> <li>• Fort Eisenhower's new construction/growth plans.</li> </ul> <p>Skyler Andrews with Augusta Press, expresses that, he hopes he has done us all justice in the articles he has written about the county's affairs in 2024.</p>

## Calendar of Events

1 minute	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 13, 2025 Executive Committee @ 7:30</li> <li>• January 13, 2025 Property Development Committee @ 8:30</li> <li>• January 13, 2025 Existing Business &amp; Workforce Committee @ 9:30</li> <li>• January 22, 2025 Board meeting</li> </ul>



Closed Session		
21 minutes	Chairman, Rick Evans	
Discussion	<p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to <b>enter into closed session</b>.            Motion: Jean Garniewicz 2nd: Mark Herbert Motion carries unanimously (8-0)</p> <p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to <b>exit closed session</b>.            Motion: Kerry Bridges 2nd: Jean Garniewicz Motion carries unanimously (8-0)</p> <p>• <b>1 property matter was discussed during closed session.</b></p> <p><b>Motion 1:</b>  <b>Mark Wills makes a motion</b> to approve and enter into, the <b>Loan Agreement</b> between the Development Authority of Columbia County and First State Bank in the amount of Thirty Million Dollars, for the development of <b>Phase III of White Oak Business Park</b> to include the <b>purchase of 1624.5 acres at Tax Map Parcel 018 006</b>, from New Sky LLC, IDK Investments, &amp; MPR Consultants, Inc., for Twenty-Nine Million, Two Hundred and Forty-one Thousand Dollars, and for the Chairman or Executive Director authority to negotiate and execute any related documents for closing.  <b>2nd: Mark Herbert Motion carries unanimously (8-0)</b></p> <p><b>Motion 2:</b>  <b>Stan Shepherd makes a motion</b> to approve and enter into, the <b>Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale of 650 to 800 acres</b>, to be decided at closing, at <b>Tax Map Parcel 018 006</b>, to TC Atlanta Development Inc., in the amount of Fifty-Nine Million One Hundred and Eighty Thousand Dollars, and for the Chairman and Executive Director authority to negotiate and execute any related documents for closing.  <b>2nd: Mark Herbert Motion carries unanimously (8-0)</b></p>	
<b>Adjournment</b>		8:34 AM
Conclusions	Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to adjourn the December 18, 2024, board meeting at 8:34 a.m. Motioned: Stan Shepherd 2nd: Jean Garniewicz Motion carries unanimously (8-0)	
<b>Next meeting: January 22,2025</b>		EDACC All