



EDACC Board Meeting Minutes						
February 25, 2025				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	9:11 AM					
Board Attendance	Rick Evans	Y	Mark Wills	Y	Stan Shepherd	Y
	Jim Cox	Y	Jean Garniewicz	Y	Kerry Bridges	ABSENT
	Mark Herbert	ABSENT	Ben Stapleton	Y	Rick Toole	Y
Staff/Guests	Cheney Eldridge, Chris Driver, Anita Patel, Stuart Hilsman, Linda Peplau, Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE), Commissioner, Connie Melear (CCBOC), & Sanjeev Singhal					
New Board Member Introduction						
1 minute	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Discussion	Chairman, Rick Evans - Welcomes & introduces EDACC's newest board member, <b>Rick Toole</b> .					
Meeting Agenda						
1 minute	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Discussion	Chairman Rick Evans calls for a motion to jointly approve the agenda for the February 25, 2025, EDACC Board Meeting & the minutes for the December 18, 2024, EDACC Board Meeting.					
Conclusions	Motion: Stan Shepherd   2nd: Jean Garniewicz   Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)					
Minutes of Previous Meeting						
0 minutes	Chairman, Rick Evans					
Discussion	See above.					
Conclusions	Motion: Stan Shepherd   2nd: Jean Garniewicz   Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)					

DACC Financial Report	
11 minutes	Treasurer, Mark Wills
Discussion	<p>Treasurer, Mark Wills, reports on the following items in the January 2025 financial reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports that our audit has concluded.</li> <li>• Page 2 (balance sheet): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Phase III property was added to the Fixed Assets category.</li> <li>◦ Reported on the new checking account that was opened for the Phase III loan interest payments.</li> <li>◦ Highlights the Long Term Liability line item that reflects the \$30 million addition for Phase 3 loan note.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Page 3 &amp; 4 (expenses for the month). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Reflects master show case expenses in January 2025 (house rental, van, &amp; catering).</li> <li>◦ Reflects loan/interest expense (\$124,000.00 for Phase 3 for Jan.2025).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Page 7 highlights &amp; updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Category changes &amp; adjustments recap.</li> <li>◦ Shares a remaining budget overview.</li> <li>◦ SRS-CRO future reimbursement updates.</li> <li>◦ Reiterates from prior meetings, that the county will continue to make the interest payment to JP Morgan Bank for the bond note on our behalf.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Conclusions	<p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to approve the January 2025 Financial Reports.</p> <p>Motion: Jim Cox 2nd: Jean Garniewicz. Motion carries unanimously (7-0).</p>
Chairman's Report	
12 minutes	Chairman, Rick Evans
Discussion	<p>Chairman, Rick Evans shares the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides updates on the recent 2025 board &amp; committee calendar adjustments.</li> <li>• Welcomes again, Rick Toole to the board.</li> <li>• Presents Sanjeev Singhal, a thank you award for his service &amp; time on the board and on the BRI committee.</li> <li>• Provides updates for the 2025 Board Retreat (02.27.2025 &amp; 02.28.2025)</li> <li>• Reiterates from prior meetings, the importance of privacy within our organization. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Passes around for each board member to agree upon by signature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A CODE OF ETHICS AGREEMENT</li> <li>- A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT</li> <li>- An ANNUAL COMPLIANCE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT</li> <li>- An ATTENDANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• County budget updates/tentative increase approval update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ County has decided that there will be no personnel raises for 2025 for county employees.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provided a GA Economic Board meeting recap.</li> <li>• Masters discussion (housing, catering &amp; tickets).</li> <li>• Nominating Committee Recommendations for Executive Committee Leadership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ An official 2025 recommendation from the Nominating Committee (submitted by Kerry Bridges) was read aloud by Chairman, Rick Evans.</li> </ul> <p>The recommendations are as follows:</p> <p>* Jean Garniewicz– Secretary , Mark Wills – Treasurer, Stan Shepherd – Vice Chair &amp; Rick Evans – Chair</p> </li> </ul>
Conclusions	<p><b>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to accept the nominating committee's recommendations for 2025.</b></p> <p><b>The executive committee leadership nominations to be accepted are as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Jean Garniewicz – Secretary</li> <li>* Mark Wills– Treasurer</li> <li>* Stan Shepherd– Vice-Chair</li> <li>* Rick Evans– Chair</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion: Jim Cox 2nd: Rick Toole Motion carries unanimously (7-0).</b></p>

DACC Committee Reports	
6 minutes	Jim Cox for Business Recruitment & Incentive Program Committee
Discussion	<p>Jim Cox shared the following committee meeting topics for Business Recruitment &amp; Incentive Program Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported on post hurricane debris clean-up challenges, for GA state parks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ \$40 million in cost for the clean-up in our county.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Clarks Hill damn tour update -on a permanent hold due to post hurricane clean -up.</li> <li>• Business closures in our community, such as Big Lots in Evans.</li> <li>• New businesses coming to our community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Pinnacle Bank @ Town Center (Commissioner Melear goes further in detail).</li> <li>◦ A couple Dollar Generals.</li> <li>◦ Evans Town Tavern @ Town Center (Shawn Ledford).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Destination Retail/ Smoke Show BBQ updates- status is the same/no movement.</li> <li>• Hockey league/ hockey rink.</li> <li>• New "Score Card" table, for new projects to gage potential bond/incentive eligibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Stuart Hilsman shares about the frame work and projects to incentivize.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Project Updates	
Discussion	Cheney Eldridge, reports that this portion of the meeting will be covered at the board retreat on 02.27.2025.
Economic Development Update	
11 minutes	Executive Director, Cheney Eldridge
Discussion	<p>Executive Director, Cheney Eldridge shares the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Retreat - 02.27.2025 &amp; 02.28.2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Shares itinerary.</li> <li>◦ Gives information on the speakers, topics and timeline.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Next board tour suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Savannah Port Tour for those who were not able to make the 2024 tour (suggested by Jim Cox).</li> <li>◦ Plant Vogtle- nuclear plant (suggested by Rick Evans).</li> </ul>



Public Comments		
13 minutes	County Commissioner, Connie Melear & Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE)	
Discussion	<p>County Commissioner, Connie Melear shares the following county updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HB-581 updates.</li><li>• Post hurricane debris update.</li></ul> <p>Dr. Steven Flynt (CCBOE), shares the following school updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progress report on school construction.</li><li>• Budget updates.</li><li>• HB-581 updates.</li><li>• Reports on some fundamental challenges &amp; achievements.</li></ul>	
Calendar of Events - Not covered at the meeting.		
Closed Session		
16 minutes	Chairman, Rick Evans	
Discussion	<p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to <b>enter into closed session</b>.</p> <p>Motion: Jean Garniewicz    2nd: Jim Cox    Motion carries unanimously (7-0)</p> <p>Jean Garniewicz exits the meeting @ 8:47</p> <p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to <b>exit closed session</b>.</p> <p>Motion: Mark Wills    2nd: Jim Cox    Motion carries unanimously (6-0)</p>	
Conclusions	<p><b>After exiting closed session, Chairman, Rick Evans reports the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2 property matter were discussed during closed session. No further action to take.</b></li></ul>	
Adjournment		9:11 AM
Conclusions	<p>Chairman, Rick Evans calls for a motion to adjourn the February 25,2025, board meeting at 9:11 a.m.</p> <p>Motioned: Jim Cox    2nd: Stan Shepherd    Motion carries unanimously (6-0)</p>	
Next meeting: March 26,2025		All