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**DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
OF DAWSON COUNTY

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**Development Authority of Dawson County**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 22, 2022**

**Location:** Meeting conducted at Dawson County Chamber of Commerce meeting room in Dawsonville, GA & simultaneously remote meeting via video conference due to Covid19 Pandemic.

**Attendees:** Brian Trapnell, Chair, Jere Allen, Vice-Chair, Tara Hardwick, Secretary, Gary Coates, Treasurer, Dennis Fedoruk, Tony Passarello, Dr. Carroll Turner and Ex-Officios: Mandy Power, Damon Gibbs, Chris Gaines & Brooke Anderson (virtual).

**Absent:** none.

**Guests:** Deanna Dickinson & guest, Julia Fechter/Dawson County News (virtual).

- 1. Call to Order.** Called to Order at 6:00pm by Brian Trapnell, Chair.
- 2. Announcements.** None.
- 3. Approval of the advertised Location, Quorum & Attendance.** The Chair requested a motion that the meeting was being held in the duly advertised location, a quorum was reached, and board members were in attendance in person or via telephone/video. Confirmation was made that the meeting was submitted to Dawson News & posted. Motion to approve advertised location, quorum and attendance was made by Jere Allen. Seconded by Tony Passarello. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.
- 4. Approval of the Agenda.** The Chair requested a motion on the draft agenda (previously provided to the Board electronically). Motion to approve the agenda by Gary Coates. Seconded by Jere Allen. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**5. Approval of the Minutes.** The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the regular meeting minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Tony Passarello to accept the January 18, 2022 minutes as written. Jere Allen seconded the motion. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**6. Financial Report.** Gary Coates, Treasurer, presented a general overview of the financial statements. See attached statement from United Community Bank showing account XXXXXX4585 balance of \$10,385.30. Motion made by Dr. Turner to approve closing account #4585 & moving balance to account #7308 at United Community Bank (general operating account). Motion seconded by Dennis Fedoruk. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

Motion by Dennis Fedoruk to accept the DADC March 22, 2022 Financial Reports as presented. Seconded by Dr. Turner. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**7. Economic Development Report.** Mandy Power presented an Economic Development update (see attached report). No motions made.

**8. Ex-Officio Reports.**

**A. School Board** – Dr. Gibbs presented an update on School Board elections, as well as several projects. Schools at 70% capacity now, with room to grow. Spring break is coming up the first week of April. Nicole McCade named incoming Superintendent upon Dr. Gibbs’ retirement in May. No motions were made.

**B. EWSA** – Brooke Anderson stated that EWSA has won several recent recognitions/awards for the authority. Still making progress towards reservoir & other current projects. No motions were made.

**C. County Government** – Chris Gaines reported that the Board of Commissioners will have 2 seats being vacated. 4/20/22 will be a candidate forum hosted by Chamber of Commerce. LOST agreement between county & city close to resolution. Moratorium on transfer station items that can’t be hand carried. County plans to purchase 2 ne ambulances. Current EMS radio system is antiquated- looking at replacing via SPLOST funds. No motions were made.

**D. Chamber of Commerce** – Mandy Power reminded all of upcoming Chamber events. No motions were made.

**9. Old Business.**

**A. Economic Developer Search.** Progressing along with 3 candidates interviewed this week. Narrowed down to 2 candidates for next interviews. No motions made.

**B. Review & approve budget with updated expenses and income.** Motion to modify budget with adjustments on lines 5200 to \$17,500, 1430 to \$5,000, and 1490 to \$5000 made by Tony Passarello. Motion seconded by Dr. Turner. Motion amended to add recruitment fees of \$11,250 (\$22,500 total fees split with Chamber of Commerce) by Passarello & seconded by Turner. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**C. Training for Board Members.** Board members up for training renewal include

Fedoruk, Coates & Trapnell. Dr. Turner is registered for initial training. A variety of training options were presented including in person, on-line & zoom. No motions made.

**D. Strategic Plan Discussion.** Tabled until next meeting. No motions made.

**10. New Business.**

**A. Create policies and procedures for grants.** Chair Trapnell discussed the need for policies and procedures for grants. Recommendation made to mirror the Dawson County government policies and procedures. No motions made.

**B. Adoption of Resolution for Broadband Infrastructure Grant.** The Chair discussed the acceptance of the grant, ETC as the sole source provider, ratification of the acceptance terms and conditions, and authorizing the execution and delivery of contract with ETC. Motion made by Dr. Turner to approve the resolution as presented (see attached document), striking “which no other” in Section 6. (b). Motion seconded by Dennis Fedoruk. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**C. Approval for Authorized Representative of Grantee.** The award of the Broadband Grant requires ongoing management of the grant until completion in 2024 (budget, terms, contracts, quarterly reports, etc.). Motion made by Dr. Turner to approve Chamber of Commerce President to act as Authorized Representative on behalf of Development Authority of Dawson County to execute and submit documentation for the Broadband Infrastructure Grant. Motion seconded by Dennis Fedoruk. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed.

**D. Consideration of changing future meeting dates (conflict with County Planning Meetings).** Discussion of changing monthly meeting dates from 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6pm to alternate day/time due to County Planning Meeting at same day/time each month. No motions made.

**11. Adjournment.** The Chair opened the floor to entertain a motion to adjourn the March 22, 2022 meeting. Jere Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Fedoruk seconded the motion. Passed 7-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, Trapnell & Turner in favor. None opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39P.M.

Attachments to these minutes on file: Board Meeting Packet, Sign in sheet, Minutes from January 18, 2022 Regular Meeting, UCBI account XXXXXX4585 statement, 2022 Budget documents, Economic Development Update, Financial Report, Resolution as ETC to be Sole Provider draft, Broadband Infrastructure Authorized Representative of Grantee draft.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Hardwick, Secretary