



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF DAWSON COUNTY

Development Authority of Dawson County
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 19, 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: Jere Allen, Vice-Chair, Tara Hardwick, Secretary, Gary Coates, Treasurer, Tony Passarello, Dr. Carroll Turner and Ex-Officio(s): Mandy Power, Chris Gaines, & Director of Economic Development Kevin Herritt.

Absent: Brian Trapnell, Chair & Dennis Fedoruk.

Guests: Hannah Gattis (Fetch Your News).

- 1. Call to Order.** Called to Order at 6:03pm by Jere Allen, Vice-Chair.
- 2. Announcements.** No announcements.
- 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 Dr. Turner. Seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & 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 Tony Passarello. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed.
- 5. Approval of the Minutes.** The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the regular meeting minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Dr. Turner to accept the May 17, 2022 minutes as written. Tony Passarello seconded the motion. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the Executive Session minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Tony Passarello to accept the May 17, 2022 Executive Session minutes as written. Dr. Turner seconded the motion. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed

6. Financial Report. Treasurer Coates gave an overview of finances (see attached Balance Sheet & Statements of Revenues and Expenses). Treasurer Coates commented that he recommends reviewing our investment policy for any updates in the future. Motion made by Dr. Turner to accept the July 19, 2022 Financial Report as presented. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed. Treasurer Coates then presented the 2021 Audit report (see attached report). Motion to accept the 2021 audit report by Dr. Turner. Motion seconded by Tara Hardwick. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello & 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 – No representative present. No report. No motions were made.

B. EWSA – Brooke Anderson absent. No report. No motions were made.

C. County Government – Chris Gaines mentioned that the county is in good financial position as budget talks continue. New 911 radio system will cost more than anticipated. Many residential developments coming in; 30-day moratorium. Personnel recruitment continues to be challenging. No motions were made.

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

9. Old Business.

A. ETC Grant Update. Mandy Power briefed us on revised agreement with ETC, which makes us a true pass-through agency. Motion made by Jere Allen to approve agreement with addition of signature block on reference to attachments. Gary Coates seconded the motion. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Passarello & Turner in favor. Hardwick abstained. None opposed.

B. Rural Development Institute Summit Review (June 7-9, 2022). Mandy Power briefed about Valdosta State University Summit in Economic Development Report (see attached report). Dr Turner, Kevin Herritt, Mandy Power & Tim Collins (Assistant General Manager-EWSA) attended. One of 12 communities to participate & the only one from North GA. Main takeaways: Initiate an Industrial Site Assessment for a single or combined site that would be 100+ acres, develop a Marketing Strategy for Economic Development to include tourism, family entertainment, & placemaking, create retail strategies gap analysis for complementary businesses to existing businesses along the 400 corridors, coordinate a community-wide strategic plan. No motions made.

10. New Business.

A. None.

11. Executive Session. Motion to move to Executive Session made by Jere Allen (affidavit signed). Motion seconded by Tony Passarello. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed. 7:14pm.
Motion to end Executive Session made by Dr. Turner. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed. 8:01pm.

12. Adjournment. The Chair opened the floor to entertain a motion to adjourn the July 19, 2022 meeting. Dr. Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jere Allen seconded the motion. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, Passarello, & Turner in favor. None opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Attachments to these minutes on file: Board Meeting Packet, Sign in sheet, Agenda, Minutes from May 17, 2022 Regular Meeting, 2022 Budget Balance Sheet & Statements of Revenue and Expenses, 2021 Audit report, Economic Development Update, ETC agreement, Executive Session affidavit.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Hardwick, Secretary