THE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

OF HEARD COUNTY

Board of Directors Meeting

Development Authority Office, 121 So. Court Square, Franklin, Ga 30217

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 4:00 PM

Minutes

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**Item**

1. Chairperson Reeves called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Those in attendance were Board Members Rodney Kay, Wil Arnett, Leighton Alston, Todd Turner, and Don Heard, Attorney Jerry Ann Conner and Director Kathy Knowles.
2. Mr. Arnett provided the invocation.
3. All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairperson Reeves welcomed guest Ms. Laurie Cook of Heard County Water Authority.
5. Mr. Alston made a motion to amend the agenda to address New Business first then the Executive Session in order to allow one board member to leave for another meeting. Mr. Arnett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Mr. Alston made a motion to approve the June Minutes as presented. Mr. Arnett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
7. Mr. Kay made a motion to approve the June Financials as presented. Mr. Arnett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Based on the amended agenda, the Board addressed New Business items.

1. **New Business**
   1. FY19 Budget Review and Approval

Ms. Reeves and Ms. Knowles went over the budget changes. After review, Mr. Alston made a motion to approve the FY19 Budget as presented. Mr. Kay seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

* 1. Capstone Engineering Expense Approval

Ms. Knowles requested approval for payment of engineering costs for Capstone Engineering in the amount of $12,500 for the site planning in Franklin Industrial Park East.

Mr. Turner made a motion to approve the expenditure. Mr. Arnett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

1. **Executive Session**

Mr. Heard made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Real Estate. Mr. Turner seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Cook stepped out of the board room and the Board entered Executive Session.

Upon completion of the Executive Session, Mr. Alston made a motion to return to Regular Session. Mr. Heard seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The Board resumed Regular Session. Ms. Cook returned to the meeting.

1. **Old Business**
   1. Broadband Update

Ms. Knowles shared the conversations from a recent meeting with Dave Lasier and Joel Taylor of Enersphere, Chief Steve Wirth of Heard EMA and Brad Smith of Heard IT. Enersphere has begun collecting data on existing cell tower and fiber locations as well as gaps in coverage. It was decided to first look at options for expansion of cellular coverage and Charter cable into the unserved areas.

* 1. Bushhead Shoals Update

Ms. Knowles advised that studies regarding the historical preservation have been approved and we are awaiting DNR’s Wildlife Division review of the site.

* 1. Glover Road Park Repairs Update

Ms. Knowles advised that preliminary plan preparation is underway but there are no significant developments at this time.

Chairperson Reeves asked to amend the agenda to add an item to New Business to discuss a contribution to the Heard County Baby Braves program. Mr. Alston made a motion to amend the agenda to add Item C to New Business – Baby Braves Contribution. Mr. Turner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

1. Baby Braves Contribution

Ms. Reeves shared that she has sought and received other contributions for the Baby Braves program because of its potential positive impact on the socio-economic status of the community and would like the Board to consider support of the program. Ms. Knowles further explained the program which serves the 0-3 population and focuses on school readiness, grade-level reading, removal of barriers, service referrals, and graduation. Attorney Conner agreed that the potential impact on the graduation rate could have a positive impact on future economic development and would be an acceptable expenditure. Mr. Heard made a motion to approve a $2,000 contribution to the Baby Braves program for economic development purposes. Mr. Turner seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The group agreed by consensus to consider additional funding for the program if needed in the future.

**11. Director’s Update**

Ms. Knowles reminded the group of the GEDA Conference in Savannah on Sept 19-21. She asked them to review information about the Dept. of Community Affairs Conference in LaGrange in October and advise if they’d like to attend any sessions.

She reminded the group that the next board meeting is scheduled for Aug. 28, 2018.

**12. Board Member Comments**

There were no board member comments.

**Adjournment**

Chairperson Reeves adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

**Minutes of July 24, 2018 4:00 PM**

Accepted this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chair

Attest:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary