



117 Putnam Drive ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024 ♦ Tel: 706-485-1884
www.putnamdevelopmentauthority.com

Minutes

Monday, October 19, 2020 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

The Putnam Development Authority met on Monday, October 19, 2020 at approximately 9:00 AM via conference call.

PRESENT

Chairman Walt Rucker III
Member Patty Burns
Member Mylle Mangum
Member John Wojtas

MEMBERS ABSENT

Member Eugene Smith

OTHERS PRESENT

Attorney Kevin Brown
Interim Economic Development Director Pat Topping
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rucker called the meeting to order at approximately 9:01 a.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes.)

Minutes

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting
- b. September 14, 2020 Executive Session

Motion to approve the September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting and Executive Session minutes.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rucker, Member Burns, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Financials

3. Approval of Financials - September 2020

Motion to approve the September 2020 Financials.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

(Copy of financials made a part of the minutes.)

Reports

4. Interim Economic Development Director Report

Interim EDD Topping reporting the following: (copy of report made a part of the minutes.)

- Project Activity
 - Project Club – Manufacturing – still active
 - Project Bailey – New project – Investment and jobs TBD
 - Project Noodle – New project – Manufacturing – 40 jobs – Investment TBD
- South Industrial Park GRAD Certification Status
 - Zoom meeting held with state GRAD team and PDA to outline new requirements
- Existing Industry Activity
 - Interfor – expansion project on schedule – will complete by end of 2021
 - Legacy Housing – current production is 20-25 homes per week with plans to increase to 30-35 – dealer show resulted in sale of 850 homes – current employment is 220 with plans to hire 20 more
 - Cosmo Cabinets – current employment is 40 – ships 250 cabinet sets daily – plans to increase production and hire up to 10 new employees
 - Tytan Pictures – won over 200 awards including 10 Emmys
 - Job Tax Credit Carryover – state has developed program for companies that added employees but then had to lay off due to COVID-19
 - Mailings to Employers – letter mailed to all employers with over 10 employees that outlined resources and contact information
- Georgia Chamber Rural Prosperity Summit Highlights
 - Rural success stories
 - Health care in rural Georgia
 - Broadband
- Georgia Department of Economic Development Report
 - FY2020 Results
 - FY2021 Results
- Marketing/Website Updates
 - Created Buildings and Sites database
 - Updated 2020 Board members with photos
 - Updated contact information on Business & Industry Section
 - Updated the Contact Us form
 - Pageviews increase of 22%
- Social Media
 - 617 Facebook Followers
 - 93 Linked-In Followers
 - 288 Instagram Followers
 - 37 Twitter Followers

- Events Attended and Upcoming Events

Member Mangum left the meeting at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Regular Business

5. Discussion of Branding Proposals

Chairman Rocker reminded everyone that Member Wojtas initiated this project and advised that EDD Topping has acquired three quotes. He asked board members to please review for discussion at the next meeting. No action was taken.

(Copy of quotes made a part of the minutes.)

6. Discussion of Support Job

Chairman Rocker asked for input regarding what kind of salary we could offer with the current budget and how does the board wish to proceed regarding this position. No action was taken.

7. Approval of Opening new Operating Account at Farmers & Merchants Bank

Motion to approve opening a new Operating Account at Farmers & Merchants Bank.

Motion made by Member Wojtas, Seconded by Member Burns.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Wojtas

Other Business

8. Other Business

Chairman Rocker discussed the possible need to ask the Board of Commissioners for additional budget money for projects as needed. No action was taken.

Chairman Rocker and Attorney Brown discussed the pending CGTC lease and the need for a conference call with all parties. A discussion is also needed with the county about funding to cover expenses associated with this lease. No action was taken.

Chairman Rocker also discussed the need for a formal Intergovernmental Agreement between the PDA and the Board of Commissioners. No action was taken.

Next Meeting Items

9. Next Meeting Items

A discussion of the Branding Proposals needs to be added to the next meeting agenda.

Executive Session

10. Enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate

Motion to enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Real Estate and Litigation.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Wojtas

Meeting closed at approximately 10:10 a.m.

11. Reopen Meeting and execute Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

Motion to reopen the meeting and execute the Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting.

Motion made by Member Wojtas, Seconded by Member Burns.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Wojtas

(Copy of affidavit made a part of the minutes.)

Meeting reopened at approximately 10:40 a.m.

12. Action, if any, resulting from the Executive Session

No action was taken.

Closing

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Member Wojtas, Seconded by Member Burns.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Wojtas

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:41 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Walt Rocker III
Chairman