



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

Minutes

Monday, September 14, 2020 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

The Putnam Development Authority met on Monday, September 14, 2020 at approximately 9:00 AM via conference call.

PRESENT

Chairman Walt Rocker III
Member Patty Burns
Member Mylle Mangum
Member Eugene Smith
Member John Wojtas

OTHERS PRESENT

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

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rocker called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes.)

Minutes

2. Approval of Minutes

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

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

Motion made by Member Smith, Seconded by Member Burns.

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

Financials

3. Approval of Financials - August 2020

Motion to approve the August 2020 Financials.

Motion made by Member Wojtas, Seconded by Member Smith.

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

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

Reports

4. Interim Economic Development Director Report

Interim EDD Topping reporting the following:

- Project Activity
 - Project Club – Manufacturing – Investment \$20,000,000 – 123,000 square feet
 - Project Cosmo – Manufacturing – Investment TBD
- South Industrial Park Status
 - Meeting scheduled September 17th with State GRAD team to finalize Certification Application
- Existing Industry Activity
 - Contacted top 64 employers with over 10 employees via email
 - Will begin calling companies this month
- Future projects
 - Review and revised presentation package
 - Incentives
 - Business cases for target industries
 - Regional workforce strategy
 - Building and site database update
- State Project Activity
 - 67 State Project Manager's contacted via email
 - Will continue calls this month
- Database Creation
 - Database of State Project Managers with name, title, address, phone, and email address
 - Database of local government partnerships with name, title, address, phone, and email address
- Marketing/Website Updates
 - Eatonton/Putnam brochure updated on website
 - Revised Rock Eagle Technology Park and South Industrial Park flyers
 - Covid-19 Resource page added to website
 - MGEA Works/Middle Georgia Economic Alliance page added to website
 - 2020 Labor Force information updated on website
- Social Media
 - 593 Facebook Followers
 - 83 Linked-In Followers
 - 281 Instagram Followers
 - 35 Twitter Followers
- Website Visitor Sessions and Statistics

Regular Business

5. Ratification of Insurance for old Hotel Eatonton

Putnam County cancelled the insurance on the old Hotel Eatonton so the PDA had to act fast to cover the building. A six-month term policy was purchased from Craig Massey Insurance that includes terrorism coverage for \$3789.74. EDD Topping will apply with ACCG (the county carrier) to compare rates for future terms.

Motion to ratify the decision to purchase a six-month insurance policy for the old Hotel Eatonton from Craig Massey Insurance in the amount of \$3,789.74.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

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

Attorney Brown advised requesting how much the county was paying for their insurance coverage of this building.

6. Discussion of Branding Proposal

EDD Topping reached out to two companies and received one proposal; will review closer when more proposals are received. No action was taken.

7. South Industrial Park Update

Chairman Rocker advised that this will be discussed in Executive Session.

8. Rock Eagle Technology Park and GDOT Update

Chairman Rocker advised that the Georgia Department of Transportation accepted our counter offer for the Option for Right of Way for Highway 441 widening at the Rock Eagle Technology Park. Their original offer was \$370,200.00 and our accepted counter offer was \$462,615.00. He has also met with Fall Line Properties and they have executed the agreement with GDOT. No action was taken.

Other Business

9. Other Business

Chairman Rocker advised that there is a film company in town filming a "Dead of Night" series and they would like to film at the Old Hotel. They will need to do a small build out inside and would like to remove a window and replace it with one that someone can jump through. They offered \$750.00.

Motion to approve use of the Old Hotel for filming for fee of \$750.00.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

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

Next Meeting Items

10. Next Meeting Items

None

Executive Session

11. 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 litigation and personnel.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Mangum.

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

Meeting closed at approximately 9:48 a.m.

12. 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 Smith, Seconded by Member Mangum.

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

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

Meeting reopened at approximately 10:02 a.m.

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

Motion to retain contractor as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Smith.

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

Closing

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Member Smith, Seconded by Member Mangum.

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:04 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Walt Rocker III
Chairman