

Economic Development Authority of Amherst County Regular Meeting

May 20, 2020; 6 PM

Electronic Meeting

MINUTES for MONTHLY MEETING

EDA Board Members Present

Chad Eby, Chairman
David Wall, Vice- Chairman
Dan Sweeney, Treasurer
Calvin Kennon
Mike Russell
Andrew Proctor
Patrick Dreher

EDA Members Absent

Staff in Attendance

Victoria Hanson
Lori Saunders

Youth Participant

Brooke Eby

Guests

Lee Cobb, EDA Consultant
Matt Cash, Cash's Garage

I. Call Meeting to Order

Staff was experiencing some technical difficulties which caused the meeting to start late. C. Eby called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm.

C. Eby called roll: C. Kennon - present, M. Russell - present, A. Proctor - present, P. Dreher - present, D. Wall - present, D. Sweeney - present

Staff:

V. Hanson - present, L. Saunders - present
Youth Representative, B. Eby - present

We are eligible to hold this meeting if: (1) The Governor has declared a statewide emergency under Section 44-146.17 of the Code of Virginia; (2) the catastrophic nature of the emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location; (3) the meeting is statutorily required or necessary to carry out our governmental purposes and responsibilities.

The Chair finds that the Governor has declared the COVID-19 crisis as a statewide emergency under Section 44-146.17 of the Code of Virginia.

C. Eby made the motion to find that the nature of this emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for us to assemble a quorum at a single location and that the purpose of the meeting is necessary to carry out our governmental purposes and responsibilities.

2nd: C. Kennon

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

II. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of May Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes for March 3, 2020, Special Meeting
- c. Approval of Minutes for March 11, 2020, Regular Meeting
- d. Approval of Minutes for May 6, 2020, Emergency Electronic Meeting
- e. Approval of Third Quarter Financials

The treasurer had questions regarding the financials and wanted to schedule an appointment with the staff to discuss.

C. Kennon made the motion that the Board accept the consent agenda A-D.

2nd: P. Dreher

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

III. Incentive Application

Cash's garage is building a new facility on Lakeview Dr. in Madison Heights. Matt Cash explained their expansion plans. Board members asked Mr. Cash questions and thanked him for doing business in Amherst County.

C. Kennon made the motion that the Board approve Cash's Garage application for incentives at the maximum amount for new taxable investment in accordance with the EDA incentive policy for existing businesses.

2nd: D. Wall

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

IV. Committee Updates

There were no committee updates.

V. Staff Comments

L. Saunders and C. Kennon gave an update on the EDA Small Business Grant. The review committee gave out over \$17,000 to 18 businesses. There is still funding available. V. Hanson talked about the SBA EIDL for Agricultural businesses along with funding from USDA. The CVTC

redevelopment committee meeting introduced the company that will be working on the redevelopment plan and an overview of the plan process.

VI. Open Discussion

C. Kennon would like to continue with the incubator plans. Lee Cobb stated that until Phase II opened it was still too challenging to continue planning. A. Proctor had to cancel his meeting with Bob Hopkins due to the pandemic. P. Dreher thanked the staff and the review committee for working on the EDA Small Business grant program. C. Eby thanked the staff for their work during these challenging times. B. Eby told the Board that the schools have internet access in their parking lots to help students and the committee have access to wifi.

VII. Closed Session to discuss the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property and Prospective New Business

D. Wall made the motion that the Amherst County Economic Development Authority convene in closed session pursuant to the exemption at § 2.2-3711(A)(5) of the Code of Virginia, to discuss a prospective business where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating its facilities in the community, and to discuss the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property where discussion in open session would adversely affect the Economic Development Authority's bargaining position and/or negotiating strategy.

2nd: A. Proctor

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

D. Wall made the motion to come out of closed session

2nd: P. Dreher

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

D. Wall made the motion that the Economic Development Authority of Amherst County certify by a recorded vote that, to the best of each Authority member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session.

2nd: C. Kennon

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

C. Kennon made the motion that the EDA approve of the recommendations as presented by the prospective business to acquire Lot 5B in the Amelon Commerce Center.

2nd: D. Wall

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

VIII. Adjournment

P. Dreher made the motion to adjourn at 7:41 pm.

2nd: D. Wall

C. Kennon- aye, M. Russell - aye, A. Proctor- aye, P. Dreher- aye, D. Wall - aye, D. Sweeney - aye, C. Eby- aye

Victoria Hanson, Secretary