



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF DAWSON COUNTY

Development Authority of Dawson County
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2021

Location: Meeting conducted at Dawson County Chamber of Commerce, 44 Commerce Dr., Dawsonville, GA & simultaneously remote meeting via video conference due to Covid19 Pandemic.

Attendees: Tony Passarello, Chair, Tara Hardwick, Secretary, Jere Allen, Treasurer, Gary Coates, Dennis Fedoruk, Brian Trapnell, and Ex-Officios: Mandy Power, Brooke Anderson, Chris Gaines (arrived during Financial Report). Betsy McGriff attending as Director of Economic Development.

Absent: Calvin Byrd, Vice Chair.

Guests: none noted.

- 1. Call to Order.** Called to Order at 9:04 A.M. by Tony Passarello, Chair.
- 2. Announcements.** Chair Passarello introduced Mandy Power, new President & CEO of Dawson County Chamber of Commerce, & Dennis Fedoruk, newly appointed DADC Board Member.
- 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 Jere Allen. Seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell 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, with the addition of Executive Session at the end of the meeting prior to adjournment for the purposes of approval of October 2020 & December 2020 Executive Session minutes was made by Tara Hardwick. Seconded by Jere Allen. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

5. Approval of the Minutes. The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the regular meeting minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Gary Coates to accept the October 27, 2020 minutes as written. Jere Allen seconded the motion. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the meeting minutes of the December 1, 2020 Special Called Meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Jere Allen to accept the December 1, 2020 minutes as written. Gary Coates seconded the motion. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

6. Financial Report. Jere Allen presented a general overview of the financial statements. Motion by Gary Coates to accept the DADC January 26, 2021 Financial Reports as presented. Seconded by Jere Allen. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

7. Old Business.

A. Peaks of Dawsonville Update. Per Chair Passarello, no open issues for DADC. Currently awaiting updates. No motions were made.

B. West Hightower Improvement Update. Betsy McGriff provided an update on paving project, citing good progress. No motions were made.

C. Strategic Plan Update. Betsy McGriff reviewed Strategic Plan with our planning consultant. 12-month deliverable. Need clean set of goals for FY2021; will add to agenda for next meeting. No motions were made.

8. New Business.

A. Signing of Oath of Office & Conflict of Interest Policy Forms. Chair Passarello asked that these forms be signed and returned to Brenda Mason. No motions were made.

B. Officer Elections. Chairman Passarello opened the floor for discussion of officers for FY 2021.

Motion made by Jere Allen to re-elect Tony Passarello as Chair. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

Motion made by Gary Coates to elect Brian Trapnell as Vice Chair. Motion seconded by Jere Allen. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

Motion made to re-elect Tara Hardwick as Secretary by Jere Allen. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

Motion made by Tara Hardwick to re-elect Jere Allen as Treasurer. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

C. Approval of FY2021 Budget. Motion to approve FY2021 Budget as amended (Jere Allen will draft language regarding use of operating reserves) made by Jere Allen. Motion seconded by Brian Trapnell. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

D. Approval of FY2021 Meeting Dates. Motion made by Gary Coates to approve FY2021 Meeting Dates as proposed. Motion seconded by Jere Allen. Passed 6-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, Passarello, & Trapnell in favor. None opposed.

9. Economic Development Report. Betsy McGriff gave an overview, including LOST/SPLOST updates, as well as a workforce update, etc. (see attached report). No motions were made.

10. Ex-Officio Reports.

A. EWSA – Brooke Anderson reported continued strong growth in Dawson County. The reservoir construction is still on track. No motions were made.

B. School Board – no report provided. No motions were made.

C. Chamber of Commerce – see Economic Development Report. No motions were made.

D. County Government – Chris Gaines said that a fiscally conservative approach is being taken with county budget due to unknowns (pandemic, etc.). SPLOST discussed. Multi-year plan with DADC is still very positive. No motions were made.

11. Executive Session. Motion was made to enter Executive Session at 11:13 A.M. by Jere Allen. Motion seconded by Tara Hardwick. Motion passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, & Passarello in favor. None opposed. Trapnell absent.

Motion made by Gary Coates to approve October 27, 2020 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion seconded by Jere Allen. Motion passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick, & Passarello in favor. Fedoruk abstains. None opposed. Trapnell absent.

Motion made by Jere Allen to approve December 1, 2020 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion seconded by Gary Coates. Motion passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Hardwick & Passarello in favor. Fedoruk abstains. None opposed. Trapnell absent.

Motion was made at 11:16 A.M. by Tara Hardwick to end Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Jere Allen. Motion passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, & Passarello in favor. None opposed. Trapnell absent.

12. Adjournment. The Chair opened the floor to entertain a motion to adjourn the January 26, 2021 meeting. Jere Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tara Hardwick seconded the motion. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, Hardwick, and Passarello in favor. None opposed. Trapnell absent. Meeting was adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Attachments to these minutes on file: FY2021 Budget, FY2021 Meeting Dates, Economic Development Update.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Hardwick, Secretary