



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF DAWSON COUNTY

Development Authority of Dawson County
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2022

Location: Meeting conducted at Dawson County Chamber of Commerce meeting room in Dawsonville, GA & simultaneously remote meeting via video conference.

Attendees: Jere Allen, Vice-Chair, Gary Coates, Treasurer, Tony Passarello, Dr. Carroll Turner, Dennis Fedoruk, and Ex-Officio(s): Dawson County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Mandy Power & Director of Economic Development Kevin Herrit.

Absent: Brian Trapnell, Chair; Tara Hardwick, Secretary; Ex-Officious: Chris Gaines, Nicole Lecave, and Brooke Anderson.

Guests: None

- 1. Call to Order.** Called to Order at 6:05 pm by Jere Allen, Vice-Chair.
- 2. Announcements.** None.
- 3. Approval of the advertised Location, Quorum & Attendance.** The Vice-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. The motion to approve the advertised location, quorum, and attendance was made by Dr. Carroll Turner and Seconded by Dennis Fedoruk. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk & Turner are in favor. None opposed.
- 4. Approval of the Agenda.** The Vice-Chair requested a motion on the draft agenda (previously provided to the Board electronically). Motion to approve the agenda by Dennis Fedoruk. Seconded by Dr. Carroll Turner. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

5. Approval of the Minutes. The Vice-Chair opened the floor for discussion of the regular meeting minutes of the October 18, 2022, meeting, as previously provided to the Board electronically. Motion by Dr. Turner to accept the October 18, 2022, minutes as written. Dennis Fedoruk seconded the motion. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

6. Financial Report. Treasurer Coates gave an overview of finances (see attached Balance Sheet & Statements of Revenues and Expenses). Motion made by Dr. Turner to accept the December 20, 2022, Financial Report as presented. Motion seconded by Dennis Fedoruk. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

7. New Business.

A. AMP Request for Participation in Fiscal Impact Analysis By GT. AMP requested financial participation from the Development Authority of Dawson County to procure a fiscal impact analysis. The Board discussed if this should be a policy and what the amount should be if a policy were created. The discussion did not coalesce into a motion for a policy, and the Board discussed looking at these requests on a case-by-case basis. The motion made by Mr. Coates to approve funding not to exceed \$2,529.50. Motion Seconded by Mr. Fedoruk. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

B. Joint USDA Grant with Rural Development Participants Collaboration – Retail Product Development & Recruitment. Director Herrit presented the Agenda Item Summary that explained that Valdosta State University’s Rural Development Institute (RDI) is asking the board to be part of a joint USDA application with other participating RDI communities to secure the grant. The applicants could include matching funds up to \$2,500. If the Board approved a motion to be included in the application and submitted a cash match, they would be eligible to receive approximately \$25,000 in support services from Retail Strategies to support retail product development and recruitment in our community. The motion to approve the participation in the USDA grant application and contribute a \$2,500 cash match was made by Dr. Turner. Motion Seconded by Mr. Fedoruk. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

C. 2023 Budget Review. Dawson County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Mandy Power presented the proposed 2023 budget for review and asked Board Members to review the budget for discussion and approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

D. DADC Retreat - Takeaways. President and CEO Ms. Power reviewed the Agenda Item Summary and discussed the next steps for action items to be completed by Director Herrit.

E. Board Member Appointment terms. President and CEO Ms. Power informed the board that Brian Trapnell, Dr. Carrol Turner, and Lynn Jackson were reappointed and appointed by the Dawson County Board of Commissioners for terms to begin on January 1, 2023, and end on December 31, 2026. Ms. Power and Mr. Herrit were appointed to the JDA with the same terms.

F. January Meeting Date. Director Herrit asked if the board would like to have its next

regularly scheduled meeting on January 17, 2023, and approve a list of meeting dates to include the first meeting of the Board in 2024. A motion by Dr. Turner to hold the next regular meeting on January 17, 2023, was presented. Dennis Fedoruk seconded the motion. Passed 4-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner are in favor. None opposed.

9. Old Business.

A. ETC Grant Update. President and CEO Ms. Power briefed the board that all is progressing as planned and that we are on target. The first round of funds has come in, and sequential drawdowns are going through the processes with the State. No motions were made.

10. Economic Development Report. President and CEO Ms. Power & Director Herrit presented an Economic Development update (see attached report). No motions were made.

11. Ex-Officio Reports.

A. School Board – Nicole Lecave was absent. No motions were made.

B. EWSA – Brooke Anderson was absent. No report. No motions were made.

C. County Government – Chris Gaines was absent. No report. No motions were made.

D. Chamber of Commerce – Mandy Power reminded everyone attending of the upcoming Chamber events. No motions were made.

12. Adjournment. The Vice-Chair opened the floor to entertain a motion to adjourn the December 20, 2022, meeting. Dr. Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Coates seconded the motion. Passed 5-0. Allen, Coates, Fedoruk, & Turner in favor. None opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

Attachments to these minutes on file: Board Meeting Packet, Sign-in sheet, Agenda, Minutes from December 20, 2022, Regular Meeting, 2022 Budget Balance Sheet & Statements of Revenue and Expenses, Economic Development Update.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Herrit, Director of Economic Development