



MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
December 4, 2018

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Cain, District II, Chairman
Mr. Julian Davis, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V

The Planning & Economic Development Committee met at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, Interim Administrator Rick Martin, County Attorney David Root, and Clerk to Council, Katie D. Smith.

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Janet Hartman, Interim Economic Alliance Director & Destination Oconee Manager.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

No media was present.

Call to Order:

Mr. Cain called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2018 meeting as presented.

Presentation regarding Entrepreneurship in Oconee County – Dave Elridge

Mr. Dave Elridge, Oconee Economic Alliance Commission, addressed the Committee utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following:

- Non-profit organization to work with entrepreneurs and small businesses
- Once a month training program at Tri-County Technical College, assign a mentor on a permanent basis if requested, and provide space for a small business for a very low cost for three to four years
- Typically have five to ten businesses located in this space at one time
- Need another incubator close to the Clemson area

Mr. Cain thanked Mr. Elridge and noted that he has been with the Oconee Economic Alliance Commission for the past eight years with no salary. He also thanked him for his time invested in Oconee County and its entrepreneurs.

Mr. Davis echoed Mr. Cain's comments and thanked Mr. Elridge for all of his hard work.

Economic Alliance Update

Ms. Janet Hartman, Interim Economic Alliance Director, addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Oconee Economic Alliance Annual Report 2018 & Oconee County Trends Report 2018” [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following:

- 75 Investors
- \$69 Million in Capital Investment
- 123 New Jobs in 2018
- Agriculture & Tourism
- Education
- Oconee Destination

Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Hartman and staff for all of their hard work.

Regarding the previous discussion regarding the entrepreneurship in Oconee County, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to recommend to full Council for approval for Oconee County to begin exploring potential locations for a second incubator that is in closer proximity to Clemson University.

Unfinished Business:

None addressed at this meeting.

New Business:

None addressed at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Davis made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council