



Oconee County Economic Development Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 19, 2012

The Oconee County Economic Development Commission meeting was held October 19, 2012 at the Commission office, 502 East Main Street, Walhalla, SC.

**Attendance**

**Commission Members:**

- Kim Alexander, District I
- Harold Gibson, District II
- Hank Field, District III
- Sammy Dickson, District IV
- Gene Blair, District V

**Ex-Officio Members:**

- Scott Moulder, County Administrator
- Ronnie L. Booth, President, Tri-County Technical College
- Michael Lucas, Superintendent, School District of Oconee County
- Jeanne L. Ward, President/CEO Oconee Medical Center
- Marvin Carmichael, Chief of Staff, Assistant to the President, Clemson University
- Robert C. Winchester, Director, Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority
- Art Holbrooks, Director, Planning Commission
- Jim Gadd, Executive Director, Oconee Alliance
- John Lummus, VP Economic Development, Tri-County Technical College

**EDC Staff:**

- Richard K. Blackwell, Executive Director
- Russell Johnson, Project & Marketing Manager

**Guests:**

- Paul Corbeil, County Council District I
- Dave Eldridge, Interim Chair, MLBDC
- W.C. (Bozo) Richards, Citizen
- Rick Adkins, District Director for US Cong. Duncan
- Ed West, SC Dept. of Commerce
- Kyle Talente, Strategic Planning Consultant

**News Media:**

- Ray Chandler, Reporter, Anderson Independent Mail
- Mike Eads, Reporter, Daily Journal

**Call to Order:** Mr. Field, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Action to Approve the Agenda:** Mr. Gibson moved the agenda be approved; Mr. Dickson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Minutes approved:** Mr. Dickson moved the Minutes of the August meeting and the Notes from the September meeting be approved; motion seconded by Mr. Gibson. Motion carried.

**Guest Report:** Mr. Ed West from the South Carolina Department of Commerce provided an update concerning activity and various on-goings at the state level.

**Oconee County Update:** Mr. Moulder, County Administrator, provided a short update that referenced the recent hiring of a Finance Director and progression being made with the Oconee Focus project.

**Oconee Alliance Review:** Mr. Jim Gadd, Executive Director was not available. It was noted to the committee that Mr. Robert Halfacre, BB&T Executive, has assumed the role of Chair of the organization until the end of 2013.

**Directors Report:** Mr. Richard Blackwell, Executive Director, commented on recent activity and referenced the hand out. He also updated the Commission on Echo Hills and provided an update on a recent presentation concerning the Seneca Rail Site that he made to the County's Capital Projects Committee.

**Project and Marketing Report:** Russell Johnson, Director of Projects and Marketing, provided an update on recent marketing advertisements the EDC has conducted and gave a presentation on the 2012 AOP Showcase.

**Old Business:** Mr. Dave Eldridge provided a brief update on the activity being seen at the MLBDC and referenced some positive news from the organization in the Greenville News.

**New Business:** Mr. Field noted this was the next meeting on Nov. 16 and encouraged ever to stay after this meeting is concluded to participate in the EDC strategic planning discussion.

**Adjourn:** Kim Alexander moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Mr. Gibson. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Blackwell