



Oconee County Economic Development Commission

Minutes of Meeting

May 17, 2013

The Oconee County Economic Development Commission (OCEDC) meeting was held May 17, 2013 at the Commission office, 502 East Main Street, Walhalla, SC.

In Attendance -

Commission Members:

- Dave Eldridge, *District I*
- Vacant, *District II*
- Hank Field, *District III*
- Sammy Dickson, *District IV*
- Gene Blair, *District V*

Ex-Officio Members:

- Scott Moulder, Oconee County Administrator
- Paul Corbeil, Council Economic Development Committee Chair
- Dr. Ronnie L. Booth, President, Tri-County Technical College
- Dr. 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*

Members of Council:

Reg Dexter, Oconee County Council Member
Archie Barron, Oconee County Council Member

Special Guests:

Bozo Richards, Citizen
Jonathan Dix, U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham's Office
Ed West, SC Department of Commerce

News Media:

Ray Chandler, Reporter, Anderson Independent Mail
Dick Mangrum, WGOG
Norm Cannada, Daily Journal

Call to Order: Mr. Field, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum of appointed OCEDC Commissioners was present.

Action to Approve the Agenda: Chairman Field asked for a motion to approve the agenda for today's OCEDC meeting as presented. Commissioner Dickson moved the agenda be approved as presented; Commissioner Eldridge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Field asked for a motion to approve the Minutes from the April OCEDC meeting be approved as presented. Commissioner Eldridge moved the Minutes be approved; motion seconded by Commissioner Dickson. Motion carried.

Special Presentation from the SC Dept. of Commerce: Ed West from the SC Dept. of Commerce made a special presentation to Mr. Blackwell for earning the South Carolina Certified Economic Developer Status.

Oconee County Update: Councilor Corbeil provided a quick synopsis of County issues that included the progression of the budget process, the inquiry into revenue diversification and added commentary on the county as a service provider.

MLBDC Update: Vice Chair Eldridge provided a quick update on progress being made on the entrepreneur front via the MLBDC. He noted the current discussions on expanding the MLBDC to include a stronger relationship with Tri-County Tech.

EDC Executive Director's Report: Mr. Richard Blackwell, Executive Director, commented on recent economic development activities. He highlighted the progression on various projects and a recent trip to the Atlanta market to meet with a developer. He also mentioned a new commercial development on 123, the Tech Council meeting, and the success of the EDC supported Farmer's Market.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mr. Blackwell mentioned upcoming talks with the Oconee Alliance and will report back the result of that discussion.

Adjourn: Chairman Field moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Commissioner Dickson. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard K. Blackwell