



WALKER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

101 South Duke St.
P.O. Box 445
LaFayette, GA 30728
706-638-1437

Andy Arnold (Chair)
Max Morrison (Vice-Chair)
Jim Cole (Secretary/Treasurer)
Evitte Parrish

Mark Chandler
Shannon Whitfield
Stephanie Watkins (Executive Director)

Minutes of the Regular Meeting **August 9, 2022**

- I. Call to order at 10:12 a.m. by Andy Arnold**
Present: Chair Andy Arnold, Secretary/ Treasurer Jim Cole, Mark Chandler, Shannon Whitfield, Evitte Parrish, and Executive Director Stephanie Watkins. Others present: see attached sign-in sheet.
- II. Invocation given by Shannon Whitfield**
- III. Approval of the Agenda**
Motion: Evitte Parrish made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. July 12, 2022** - Chairman Arnold stated that approval of the minutes from regularly scheduled meetings would include the approval of any executive session minutes as well, unless otherwise stated.
Motion: Jim Cole made a motion to approve, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.
- V. Financial Report**

Jim Cole presented the July financial reports. He stated that there were no expenditures to report nor deposits except for interest earned. The account balance as of July 31, 2022 is \$1,868,973.16.

Motion: Evitte Parrish made a motion to approve, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.
- VI. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Stephanie Watkins stated under *marketing initiatives* that the sign at the Northwest Georgia Business & Industrial Park has been updated. Old panels have been removed and new ones have been installed. The poles and cabinets have been painted as well.

In regards to industrial recruitment and expansions, Mrs. Watkins stated that we received three new requests for information for the Walker County Business Park and one request for the Northwest Georgia Business & Industrial Park. She stated that with the increased interest

in the Walker County Business Park and the project utility needs such as water & sewer, CTI engineering has been engaged to perform a feasibility study regarding the available capacity and potential future improvements.

Executive Director Watkins stated that she and our Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) Region Representative met with existing industry, Euclid Chemical to learn more about the company. She stated that the company had recently completed a new roofing project on their facility and that our GDEcD representative is working with the company on potential investment tax credits.

Lastly, Mrs. Watkins stated that contingent awards for the TVA Workforce Invest grant is expected next week.

A copy of the Executive Director's Report is attached.

VII. Projects Update

Executive Director Stephanie Watkins stated that we are working with the Georgia Department of Economic Development to finalize the MOU and Performance & Accountability Agreement for the EDGE grant for Project Yesterday/Roper Corp. The documents should be ready for board approval by our next meeting. She also stated that Project M&M is still interested in the Walker County and we hope to hear a final decision on the project by the end of the month.

VIII. Executive Session

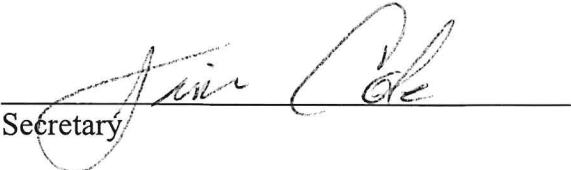
A motion was made by Shannon Whitfield to enter into Executive Session to discuss Real Estate. The motion was seconded by Evitte Parrish, 4 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

A motion was made by Evitte Parrish to exit Executive Session and enter into Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Shannon Whitfield, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

Following Executive Session in the regular meeting, a motion was made by Shannon Whitfield that the Walker County Development Authority purchase approximately 103 acres of land, Parcels 0320-036 and 0320-037 that are adjacent to the Walker County Business Park for \$1,280,000 plus title insurance and closing costs. The motion was seconded by Evitte Parrish, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.


Secretary

9/13/22
Date

Minutes prepared by: Executive Director, Stephanie Watkins