

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

There was a meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Note: You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and minutes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2010.

EDC Members Present

Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large (Chairman)
Jerry Weick, Town of Indian River Shores
Scott Carson, Real Estate Appointee
Doug Bournique, Local Industry
Andrea Coy, City of Sebastian
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian Chamber of Commerce
Jan Pagano, Civic Organization
William Penney, Banking Appointee
James Kretsch, Member-At-Large
Jay Kramer, City of Vero Beach
Helene Caseltine, Alternate for the IRCOC
Peter Robinson, Local Developer

EDC Members Absent

Andrew Kennedy, Member-At-Large
Talmage Rogers, Jr., Citrus Industry
Deb Branwell, Town of Orchid
Victor Hart, Gifford Community
Keith Kite, Tourist Industry
Gwenda Thompson, Workforce Solutions
Penny Chandler, IR Chamber of Commerce (IRCOC)
Susan Adams, City of Fellsmere
Scott Stradley, BCC Appointee

Others Present

Debbie Carson, Vero News
Tim Knutson, Florida City Gas

IRC Staff

Peter D. O'Bryan, Commissioner Liaison
Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner
Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant, District 4

Call to Order

Chairman Schlitt-Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of September 21, 2010

ON MOTION BY Councilmember Weick, SECONDED BY Mr. Carson, the members voted unanimously (12-0) to approve the meeting minutes of September 21, 2010 as presented.

Economic Development 5-year Overview – Ms. Helene Caseltine, IR Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Helene Caseltine, IRCOC, gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the County's Economic Development 5-Year Overview, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office. She pointed out the IRCOC was the designated primary agency for Economic Development of the County. She reviewed the following:

- **Economic Development - What We Want**
 - Jobs
 - Expanded and diversified tax base
- **Goals**
 - Attraction
 - Retention
- **Economic Development Marketing**
 - What are companies looking for?
 - Examples of County Targeted Industries
 - Marketing/Recruitment Tools and Activities
- **Recent Actions**
 - Revised Local Jobs Grant Criteria
 - Updated Marketing Brochure
 - Revised Economic Development Element
- **Initiatives and Results from the 2009/2010 Community Leaders Summit**
 - Reduce Impact Fees
 - Project Process
 - Tax Abatement Referendum
 - Economic Development Funding
 - Adoption of Life Sciences Accord

- **Successes**
 - Local Jobs Grants Approved
 - Jobs created/retained over the last 5 years
- **Active Projects**
- **Future Goals**

A lengthy discussion ensued on a dedicated revenue source for economic development by having the municipalities assist in funding economic development through their business tax license or occupational license.

Economic Development Report and Activities for October 2010

Ms. Caseltine highlighted on the Economic Development Report and Activities for October 2010, a copy of which is on file in the Commission. She mentioned a company looking at Indian River County that manufactures portable machinery that made bricks; however, since the machinery was so portable they were exploring the option of transporting the equipment to Haiti, where they need immediate housing.

Ms. Caseltine stated there was new legislation passed last session which required all local economic development organizations working on behalf of their local governments, to submit a written annual report by December 1, 2010 to their local governments providing a list of activities during the last fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. A presentation summarizing the annual report would be given at the December 14, 2010 BCC meeting.

Ms. Caseltine introduced Mr. Tim Knutson, Florida City Gas, and stated Florida City Gas was looking to expand their service areas in Indian River County.

Other Matters

Commissioner Liaison O'Bryan stated he had met with Mr. Geoffrey Berger, Interim Chief Executive Officer of Piper Aircraft. He indicated Piper was committed to building the Piper Jet in Vero Beach.

Commissioner Liaison O'Bryan mentioned when Florida Power and Light Company had built their solar plant in Indiantown, as a private company, the increase in their tax base was approximately \$2 million annually in ad valorem taxes. He continued that the Martin County Commission made a policy decision that required 50% of the \$2 million tax base increase be dedicated to Economic Development.

Ms. Helene Caseltine handed out to the members for informational purposes, an agenda item discussed by Chairman Solari at the November 16, 2010 BCC Meeting regarding the Department of Community Affairs "Notice of Proposed Rule", which dealt with the recently required energy conservation map, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.