

**JOINT MEETING OF THE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
AND THE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

There was a joint meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) and the Economic Development Division (EDD) on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and minutes on the IRC website - [www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2008](http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2008). Please note listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were EDC members: Chairman William Penney, Banking Appointee; Vice Chairman Peter Robinson, Developer Appointee (also EDD Member); Councilmember Debra Fromang, City of Vero Beach Appointee; Deborah Mayfield, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointee; Doug Bournique, Local Industry Appointee; Jan Pagano, Civic Organization Appointee; Talmage Rogers, Jr., Citrus Industry Appointee; Ray Coniglio, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce Appointee (also EDD Member), Penny Chandler, Indian River Chamber of Commerce (IRCOC); Scott Carson, Real Estate Appointee (also EDD Member); Ann Reuter, School Board Appointee; Deborah Segal, James Kretsch (also EDD Member), and Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, (also EDD Member), Member-at-Large Appointees.

Absent were EDC members: Mayor Andrea Coy, City of Sebastian Appointee; Victor Hart, Sr., Gifford Community Appointee; and Mayor Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere Appointee (all excused).

Also present were EDD members: Gwenda Thompson, Workforce Development; Cathy McKenzie, AT&T Florida; Chris Bieber and David Hooper, Indian River National Bank; Gerri McPherson, Florida Atlantic University (FAU); Bryce Babcock, MRA Realty Inc.; Todd Bank, Seacoast National Bank; Rick Nisbeth and Dan Kross, Citrus Bank; Mike Lafferty, The Lafferty Group; Soma Melnick, Chamber Board; Don Wright, Exit Realty; Bob Flaherty, Acquisition Experts LLC; Christine Foster, SunTrust Bank; Jim Keenan, Bank United; Keith D. Kite, Kite Properties LLC.; Matt King; Northern Trust; Karl Zimmerman, Thorpe Sotheby's International Realty; Eric Menger; Vero Beach Municipal Airport Director; and Scott Oberlink, Pointe West. IRC Staff: Peter O'Bryan, Non-voting Commissioner Liaison Bob Keating, Community Development Director (also EDD member); Stan Boling, Planning Director; Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner (also EDD member); Sasan Rohani, Chief, Long Range

Planning and Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant – District 4. Others Present: Jack Aylor, FAU; Helene Caseltine, Alternate, IRCOC Appointee; and Charlie Wilson, Media Arts Group.

**Call to Order** (00:00:27)

EDC Chairman Penney called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and introductions were made.

**Approval of Minutes of the November 20, 2007 EDC Meeting** (00:04:28)

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Rogers, SECONDED BY Mr. Carson, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the November 20, 2007 minutes as presented.**

**Approval of Minutes of the December 5, 2007 EDD Minutes** (00:4:44)

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Hooper, SECONDED BY Ms. Melnick, the members voted unanimously (28-0) to approve the December 5, 2007 minutes as presented.**

**Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the EDC** (00:05:06)

**ON MOTION BY Ms. Schlitt-Gonzalez, SECONDED BY Ms. Mayfield, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to elect Mr. Carson as Chairman of the Economic Development Council for 2008.**

**ON MOTION BY Ms. Schlitt-Gonzalez, SECONDED BY Ms. Mayfield, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to re-elect Mr. Robinson as Vice-Chairman of the Economic Development Council for 2008.**

**Update on Renovations at the Vero Beach Airport – Eric Menger, Airport Director** (00:10:15)

Mr. Eric Menger, Vero Beach Municipal Airport Director, gave an update on the renovations at the Vero Beach Municipal Airport and mentioned the reconstruction project was about 50% complete. He handed out the Florida Aviation System Plan for the Treasure Coast Region, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

### **Update on Piper Aircraft** (00:25:10)

Ms. Helene Caseltine, Economic Development Director, IRCOC, handed out a Chamber Economic Development Report for the EDC and EDD which contained an update on Piper Aircraft, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A discussion ensued on the status of Piper Aircraft and the amount of time it has taken for Piper to make a final decision and Ms. Caseltine noted that typically Economic Development Projects do take a long time.

### **Expedited Permitting Process – Mr. Robert Keating, IRC Community Development Director** (29:50)

Mr. Stan Boling, IRC Planning, gave an overview of the Expedited Permitting Process.

Mr. Robert Keating, IRC Community Development Director, followed up on the Expedited Permitting Process and stated the applicant has an option to minimize the time involved in the permit process. He indicated that many of the applicants do not take the opportunity. He felt the most important thing an applicant could do to expedite the process was to hire a good design engineer because they would know all of the building codes. He pointed out the permitting process may take months depending on the type of property involved even if the County has completed their part of the process. A discussion followed regarding the state's fast track process program and the time frame for the process after the applicant has applied for a permit.

### **Quarterly Chamber Update of Economic Development Activities – Ms. Helene Caseltine, Economic Development Director, IRCOC** (01:08:43)

Ms. Caseltine briefly summarized some potential Economic Development Projects contained in the Chamber Economic Development Report to the EDC and EDD. She added the EDD would be bringing back a recommendation of targeted industries to the EDC for their consideration as part of the Economic Development Element.

### **Review of Evaluation and Appraisal Report Economic Development Element Objectives – Mr. Bill Schutt, IRC Senior Planner.** (01:11:43)

Mr. Bill Schutt, IRC Senior Planner, handed out a revised Proposed Economic Enhancement Element Objectives and pointed out the word "Enhancement" replaced the word "Development". After some discussion, he

reviewed the information contained in the Data for Proposed Diversified Economic Growth Table, Data for Proposed Low Unemployment Objective Chart, and Data for Proposed High Annual Average Wage Objective Chart, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A lengthy discussion was held on the Proposed Economic Enhancement Element Objectives and it was suggested to eliminate Objective 7: Economic Enhancement Community Acceptance.

**A MOTION was made by Mr. Robinson, SECONDED BY Mr. Coniglio, to eliminate Objective 7 of the Proposed Economic Enhancement Objective Revision.**

A discussion followed on Objective 7 and Mr. Carson felt the item should be tabled until the next EDC meeting.

**THE CHAIRMAN CALLED FOR THE QUESTION** and a discussion followed in which the motion was withdrawn. Chairman Penney asked if staff could reword Objective 7 based on the discussion and bring back to a future EDC meeting.

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Robinson, SECONDED BY Ms. Fromang, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to table Objective 7 and request that staff reword the objective based on the committee's recommendations.**

#### **Other Matters** (02:05:17)

Commissioner O'Bryan told the committee, the BCC at their January 15, 2008 meeting added three additional members to the EDC by approving Resolution 2008-003 to provide representation from the Town of Indian River Shores, the Town of Orchid and the Workforce Development Board.

Ms. Chandler stated the Treasure Coast Legislative Conference would be held on February 20, 21 and 22, 2008 and registration could be obtained by e-mailing the IRCOC. She also wanted to thank Chairman Penney for doing a great job serving as Chairman of the EDC for the last two years.

Ms. Gerri McPherson, Florida Atlantic University (FAU), felt it was important for EDD and the EDC to know about the research being done locally in

the area by FAU and passed around a copy of the FAU Research Review for anyone that was interested, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Ms. Caseltine mentioned an Economic Development tour of the Riverfront Packaging House was scheduled for Friday, February 8, 2008 which would be opened to the general public.

**Chairman Matters** (02:08:00)

Chairman Penney thanked staff for all of their work in gathering information for the meetings and to Commissioner O'Bryan for his ideas and input the on Economic Development Council.

**Adjournment** (02:09:00)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.