

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th St., 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/2015.

EDC Members Present

Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large
Helene Caseltine for Penny Chandler, Indian River Chamber of Commerce (IRCOC)
Harris Webber, Town of Orchid
Jerry Weick, Town of Indian River Shores
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
Casey Lunceford, IRSC
Mike Lafferty, Real Estate Appointee
William Penney, Banking Appointee
Tracey McMorris for Richard Stetson, Workforce Development
Commissioner Peter D. O'Bryan, District 4, Non-Voting Commission Liaison

EDC Members Absent

Scott Stradley, BCC Appointee
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Jay Kramer, City of Vero Beach (COVB)
John Dyer, Local Industry
Shawn Frost, School Board of Indian River County
Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large
Jim Funk, Manufacturing Appointee
Jim Hill, City of Sebastian
Keith Kite, Tourist Industry
Vacant – Citrus Industry

Others Present

Dick Cantner, IRSC
Eric Menger, Vero Beach Airport

IRC Staff

Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner
Sasan Rohani, Chief, Long-Range Planning
Tina Cournoyer, Commissioner Assistant, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Zimmermann called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m. A quorum was noted.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of April 21, 2015

ON MOTION BY Mr. Weick, SECONDED BY Mr. Robinson, the members voted unanimously (12-0) to approve the minutes of April 21, 2015 meeting.

Piper Aircraft video, “The Power of 3”—Jim Funk, Piper Aircraft

The video showing was postponed to a later date.

Status of Local Jobs Grant Awards -- Mr. Bill Schutt, IRC Senior Economic Development Planner

Mr. Schutt introduced a spreadsheet, which is on file in the Commission office, displaying local job grant incentive information. A total of \$779,319.96 had been paid in job grant awards for 173 jobs, about \$4500 per job.

Mr. Lunceford requested an updated comparison of grant cost to salary gain. Mr. Rohani said Planning Staff could update a spreadsheet to provide the requested information. Ms. Caseltine said she would work with Mr. Schutt and Mr. Rohani on a news release.

Economic Development Activities Report—Ms. Helene Caseltine, IR Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Caseltine briefed the EDC about the following:

1. She, along with two other members of Florida’s Research Coast Partners, met with eight business consultants in Atlanta. They promoted business development and recruitment in Indian River County.

2. Southern Economic Development Council met in Chicago “Meet the

- Consultants”, which was 1.5 days focused on varying industries and site preferences. Ms. Caseltine attended.
3. Enterprise Florida invited consultants to Florida during spring training, which allowed Ms. Caseltine the opportunity to meet them face-to-face.
 4. There has been an increase in business retention activities, such as site visits to PCP Ammo, National Aperture, INEOS, Triton Submarines, and CVS Distribution.

Chairman Zimmermann asked if there were any updates to the Enterprise Zone. Ms. Caseltine said it would no longer exist after December 31, 2015, but local governments could institute their own programs.

Other Matters

Commissioner O’Bryan briefed the Council regarding Triton Submarines’ plan to build a demonstration submarine. They would be looking for local investors. Additionally, he reported the Board of County Commissioners approved Dan Richey to fill the citrus industry position on the EDC.

Mr. Menger announced the open house at the new Oculina Bank by the Vero Beach Airport on May 21, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. He also announced the Walking Tree Brewery should be opening soon.

Ms. Caseltine said Port Canaveral was going to include Indian River County in their Foreign Trade Zone and opined it would be attractive to businesses.

Ms. McMorris announced the CareerSource Research Coast “Best Places to Work” award ceremony was scheduled on May 21, 2015 at the Bent Pine Country Club.

Next meeting date: June 16, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 4:15 p.m.**