

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 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 meeting notes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2018 .

EDC Members Present

Brian Bauer, CareerSource Research Coast
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Penny Chandler, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Linda Kinchen, City of Sebastian
Bob Auwaerter, Town of Indian River Shores
Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large
Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large
Chad Olson, Local Tourist Industry
Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College
Laura Zorc, School Board of Indian River County
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
Jim Funk, Local Manufacturing Industry
Bruce Redus, BCC Appointee
Commissioner Peter D. O'Bryan, District 4, Non-Voting Commission Liaison

EDC Members Absent

Val Zudans, City of Vero Beach (COVB)
John Dyer, Local Industry
William Penney, Banking Industry
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large
Tim Borden, Real Estate Appointee
Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere
Paul Knapp, Town of Orchid
Vacant, Local Citrus Industry

Others Present

Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Eric Menger, Vero Beach Regional Airport Director
Noah Powers, Town Manager, Town of Orchid

IRC Staff

Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner
Tina Cournoyer, Commissioner Assistant, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Bauer called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and noted there was a quorum in attendance.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of February 20, 2018

ON MOTION BY Ms. Mitchell, SECONDED BY Mr. Lunceford, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the minutes of February 20, 2018 meeting.

Presentation of Proposed FY 2018-2019 Economic Development Budget—by Ms. Helene Caseltine, Director of Economic Development

Ms. Caseltine briefly reviewed the Economic Development proposed budget using a handout she distributed, which is on file in the commission office. She also referred to a marketing plan document which had previously been emailed out to members; it went into more depth on each of the line items. The marketing plan is also on file in the commission office.

Ms. Caseltine pointed out the new budget request total was less than last year's budget. She reviewed some of the significant differences, specifically in professional service fees and business attraction.

Commissioner O'Bryan suggested Ms. Caseltine should increase the business retention request by \$3000.

ON MOTION BY Ms. Mitchell, SECONDED BY Mr. Robinson, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the proposed FY 2018-2019 Economic Development budget request with a \$3000 increase in business retention.

School District Technology Training Expansion—by Ms. Christi Shields, Principal of Technical Center for Career & Adult Education (TCCA), Dr. Mark Rendell, SDIRC Superintendent, and Dr. Michael Arnett, Director of Career and Technical Education.

Dr. Rendell began by explaining that the School District of Indian River County does have an adult education program which is being improved, expanded, and relocated.

Ms. Shields explained what a technical school was and what TCCA offered to the community to grow a skilled Florida work force. A packet was distributed to the members which contained information about the project and the grant requests; the information is on file in the Commission office.

Dr. Arnett explained how the Career Technical Education (CTE) Steering Committee, with a team of community partners, came to determine what the needs were, how to expand the technical education program to meet those needs, and how to implement it.

Ms. Shields added the Center would be relocated from 19th St to 4680 28th Ct to be more centrally located and add space for classrooms and parking. Additionally, she said new program additions will be welding technology and building construction technology, with four of the programs offering dual enrollment so students could also earn

college credit while attending high school.

Dr. Arnett said phase 1 was already fully funded and set to start in August 2018. He went on to explain the plan for Phase 2, which would include 8 classrooms and two labs which would be used for further program expansion.

Dr. Arnett said Phase 2 would cost about \$3M. He announced Ms. Shields had applied for two Florida Department of Economic Opportunities grants: one for workforce training and the other for infrastructure. He asked for committee members to draft letters to show community support.

Mr. Auwaerter mentioned this information should be included in the marketing packages Ms. Caseltine uses during business attraction.

Commissioner O'Bryan suggested Chairman Bauer submit a grant support letter on behalf of EDC.

ON MOTION BY Mr. Robinson, SECONDED BY Mr. Auwaerter, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve Chairman Bauer to submit a grant support letter on behalf of the Economic Development Council.

Other EDC matters

Commissioner O'Bryan announced EDC vacancy for representatives from citrus industry, if the Council would consider broadening the category to "agriculture." He suggested members think about it until the next meeting.

Commissioner O'Bryan also shared that MWI had been leasing land from the county, but they recently purchased the land, giving MWI the benefit of ownership and the County the benefit of generating taxes.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 4:23 p.m.**

Next meeting date: April 17, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.