

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, September 18, 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
Val Zudans, City of Vero Beach (COVB)
Linda Kinchen, City of Sebastian
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Jessica Saldago, City of Fellsmere
Jim Funk, Local Manufacturing Industry
John Dyer, Local Industry
Bruce Redus, BCC Appointee
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large
Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large
Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large
Commissioner Peter D. O'Bryan, District 4, Non-Voting Commission Liaison

EDC Members Absent

Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College
William Penney, Banking Industry
Dori Stone, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Bob Auwaerter, Town of Indian River Shores
Laura Zorc, School Board of Indian River County
Paul Knapp, Town of Orchid
Chad Olson, Local Tourist Industry
Tim Borden, Real Estate Appointee
Vacant, Local Agriculture Industry

Others Present

Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Laurie Collings, Manpower
Jeffrey Petersen
Eric Menger, Vero Airport
Susan Adams, IRC Commissioner, District 1

IRC Staff

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

Call to Order

Chairman Bauer called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. Roll was taken and it was established that there was a quorum present.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of May 15 and June 19, 2018

ON MOTION BY Ms. Mitchell, SECONDED BY Ms. Gonzales, the members voted unanimously (13-0) to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2018 and June 19, 2018 meetings.

Presentation of Indian River Eco-District—Mr. Alain Castro, Partner, Frankens Energy

Ms. Caseltine introduced Mr. Alain Castro, a partner at Frankens Energy, who acquired the former INEOS site on January 15, 2018. Mr. Castro used powerpoint slides to explain the plans for the property, which would be called the Indian River Eco-District. The powerpoint slides and the video are both on file in the commission office. In summary, he said the following:

- introduced David Frankens and three other visitors
- explained eco-district concept, which would host 7-8 selected businesses which would work by using each other's byproducts as raw materials to provide both economic and environmental advantages.
- illustrated the concept of a cold storage facility, health drink bottling, beverage recycling, and compost plant, with raw waste from one fueling the next.
- estimated a need of 200-250 employees and at least \$40 million incoming capital
- indicated awareness of the current issue of biosolids
- expressed reluctance to apply for or use subsidies or grants
- would sell any excess energy to FPL at renewable energy price
- hoped to be permitted to start in December 2018 and begin operations in 2019

Other EDC matters

Ms. Caseltine mentioned that the EDC does not have a representative from the healthcare industry.

Commissioner O'Bryan announced the Board of County Commission made an offer to purchase Historic Dodgertown from City of Vero Beach (COVB). COVB would discuss the offer and decide whether to accept on October 2, 2018.

Commissioner O'Bryan also informed everyone that the Public Service Commission meeting would be meeting in Tallahassee on October 9-10, 2018 to decide whether to entertain petitions/challenges to the sale of COVB electric to Florida Power & Light. Those in support of the sale would be asked to attend. Val Zudans echoed the request for support. It was stated that a letter or an email of support could be sent in if unable to attend in person.

Chairman Bauer announced CareerSource Research Coast's "State of the Jobs" conference on October 25, 2018 from 8:00-1:00. Attendance is targeted to hand-selected, invited students; if employer wishes to sponsor a table, information will be distributed via email after the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 4:28 p.m.**

Next meeting date: October 16, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.