



MINUTES – May 17, 2022
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Economic Development Council held in the
Indian River County Administration Building B
Conference Room B1-501
1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL at
3:30 PM on Tuesday, May 17, 2022

23 Members / 12 Quorum

1. Call to Order

Dori Stone, Chair, called the May 17, 2022 meeting of the Indian River County Economic Development Council to order at 3:33 PM

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Dori Stone, Indian River Chamber of Commerce
Brian Bauer, Career Source
John Dyer, Local Industry
Danny Markford, Local Manufacturing
Todd Howder, Member at Large
Joe Idlette, III, Gifford Community
Fred Jones, City of Sebastian
Peggy Jones, Indian River County School Board
Bob McCabe, City of Vero Beach
Bob Morgan, Sebastian Chamber
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Jessica Salgado, City of Fellsmere
J. Rock Tonkel, BCC Appointee
Karl Zimmerman, Member at Large

Members Absent

Tim Borden, Real Estate Industry
Simms Browning, Town of Orchid
Sam Carroll, Jr., Town of Indian River Shores
Lee Hunter, Tourist Industry
Anna Kirkland, Member at Large
Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College
William Penney, Banking Representative
Jerry Renick, Agricultural Industry
Ralph Turner, MD, Healthcare Industry

Also Present

Peter O’Bryan, Commissioner, District 4
Helene Caseltine, EDC Director, IRC Chamber of Commerce
John Stoll, Chief, Long Range Planning
Phil Matson, Director Community Development
Andy Sobczak, Assistant Director, Community Development
Bill Collins, IRC Community Development
Andi Smith, Indian River Chamber of Commerce
Maura Stokes, Recording Secretary

QUORUM – *The minimum quorum requirements were met.*

3. Approval of Minutes -

- a. Approval of the Minutes from the March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting

Rock Tonkel made a motion, seconded by Fred Jones to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE: Chair Dori Stone passed the gavel to John Dyer so that she may answer any questions that come up on the subsequent Jobs Grant Application on behalf of the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce.

4. Discussion Items

a. Jobs Grant Application – Project Green – John Stoll

John Stoll, Chief of Long-Range Planning presented a Local Jobs Grant Application to the EDC. The applicant has requested confidentiality in accordance with Florida Statutes 288.075. The local job grant program offers financial incentives for “targeted industries” to locate or expand within Indian River County. The current application qualifies und the county’s “manufacturing-warehousing-distribution” target industry category.

Due diligence focused on the main sources of data readily available on Company, its Officers, and Agents from sources including:

Dun and Bradstreet credit/financial report;
Corporate registrations and liens search;
County official records for tax liens, judgments, and pending litigation; and
Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) to search for federal civil and federal bankruptcy actions.

The proposed jobs salary range would consist of:

23 qualified jobs at 75% of the county average (\$32,384 - \$43,177) and would receive \$3,000 per job for a total of \$69,000;

15 qualified jobs at 100% of the county average (\$43,178 - \$64,766 and would receive \$5,000 per job for a total of \$75,000.00; and

8 qualified jobs at 150% of the county average (\$64,767) and would receive \$7,000 per job for a total of \$56,000.

The sub-total of the grant amount equals \$200,000.00. The distribution of funds would be as jobs are provided. The expected dates are 10 employees on or about July 01, 2022 and they would receive \$50,000.00. The additional 36 jobs are expected on or about October 01, 2022 and at that time, they would receive the additional \$150,000 for a total disbursement of \$200,000.00. These dates can be administratively extended up to one year.

Staff recommends that the Economic Development Council recommend that the Board of County Commissioners approve a local job grant of up to \$200,000 for Project Green.

b. Visioning Update – Phil Matson

Phil Matson, Community Development Director was present and provided an update on the Indian River County Visioning plan. The visioning principles again remain to be conservation of sensitive environmental lands; diversity of housing types that include affordable options; infrastructure improvements that provide mobility and multimodal transportation options; promote a healthy economy; maintain agriculture; and maintain rural character.

We have engaged in a second round of public outreach for visioning with an attempt to get perhaps a younger audience involved, or a group with more diverse interests. We have presented at the Charter High School in Civics' Class, offered meetings at various times during the day in various locations throughout the county. We have five upcoming workshops (including one following this meeting at the Richardson Center). The Community Development team has tracked data on who has participated, what the community wants are, what the consensus opinion is.

The visioning principles again are the conservation of sensitive environmental lands; diversity of housing types that include affordable options; infrastructure improvements that provide mobility and multimodal transportation options; promote a healthy economy; maintain agriculture; and maintain rural character.

5. Adjournment

Being no further business, Dori Stone, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Stokes
Recording Secretary