

**JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
OF  
FRANKLIN, HART AND STEPHENS COUNTIES**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**October 26, 2015**

The quarterly meeting of the Joint Development Authority of Franklin, Hart and Stephens Counties was held on Monday October 26, 2015 at 6:00 pm at Casa Grande Cantina and Grill in Hartwell, Georgia.

Members present were: Cary Bennett, Vernon Cape, Doug Cleveland, Roy Crocker, Vernon Edwards, Don Foster, Bill Leard, Ralph Owens and Greg Roach. Also present were: Economic Developers Dwayne Dye, Frank Ginn and Tim Martin; Attorney Walter Gordon; Jack Edmunds and Treasurer and Recording Secretary M. S Smith.

Chairman Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:10 and welcomed Kathy Papa, Georgia Department of Community Affairs; Andrew Seaver, Office of Senator Perdue; and Amy Turner, Office of Senator Isakson.

Mr. Dye gave the invocation. The minutes of the July 27, 2015 meeting were approved on a motion by Mayor Owens and seconded by Cary Bennett.

Ms. Smith presented a financial summary as of September 30, 2015 and this was accepted on a motion by Mr. Leard and seconded by Mr. Edwards. A copy is attached.

The audit for fiscal year end June 30, 2015 had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. Mr. Edmunds reviewed this and it was accepted on a motion by Mayor Owens and seconded by Mr. Leard. A copy is attached.

Mr. Ginn gave an update on the Carnesville Industrial Park OneGeorgia equity grant application in the amount of \$449,982.00.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPER REPORTS**

Mr. Dye reported on his recent trip to Germany to visit the Haering plant. He gave an update on the sewer project and ARC grant application.

Mr. Dye stated that Hart County was one of eight counties to be selected by the Georgia Resource Center for a virtual tour program and this has been done. He further added that prospect activity continues to be very healthy in Hart County.

Mr. Ginn gave an update on the CSX rail project and the impact it will make on our area.

**Mr. Martin reported that project activity is also good in his area. A Holiday Inn Express is slated to be built on the site of the current Host Inn. This will be a 5 story, 72 room hotel with restaurant.**

**He noted that Sark Wire should be in operation in 60 days and hiring for other existing industries should add 282 jobs to the area.**

**Mr. Martin is working with North Georgia Technical College to sponsor a manufacturing summit on November 4.**

**He reported that Georgia Highway 17 will be complete in May of 2016.**

**Chairman Cleveland asked that signing authority be given to Ms. Smith and this was approved on a motion by Mr. Roach and seconded by Mr. Foster.**

**Amy Turner of Senator Isakson's office reported on activity from that office.**

**Andrew Seaver of Senator Perdue's office mentioned several items of interest from that office.**

**Ms. Papa, Georgia Department of Community Affairs gave updates on several grants their office is working on at this time.**

**Chairman Cleveland recognized Cary Bennett and his long service to the authority. Mr. Bennett is retiring from Georgia Power at the end of the year and has asked to be replaced on this board. Mr. Edmunds commended Mr. Bennett for being a founding member of this authority, having also served as chairman.**

**The next meeting was announced for January 25, 2016 in Stephens County.**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm**

**M. S Smith  
Recording Secretary**