



## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**February 13, 2018 4:00PM**

**PUBLIC MEETING ROOM- CATOOSA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**800 LAFAYETTE STREET**

**RINGGOLD, GEORGIA**

### **TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Catoosa County Development Authority/ Development Authority of Catoosa County was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 4:00 pm in the Public Meeting Room of the Catoosa County Administration Building, 800 Lafayette Street, Ringgold, Georgia.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Rick Partain called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm and established that a quorum was present. The following members were present: Tammy Cole, Rodney Crowe, Stephanie Dickert, Rick Partain, Randall Peters and Mike Signiski. *Jim Emberson, Lisa Headrick, and Scott Smith were absent.*

### **AGENDA SETTING**

**Additions:** None

**Modifications:** None

**Remove:** None

### **MINUTES**

***Tammy Cole made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular EDA meeting held on January 9, 2018. Randall Peters second the motion. Chairman Partain called for all those in favor of approving the motion to indicate so by raising their right hand. There was no opposition and the motion was approved by unanimous consent.***

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **PROPOSED APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR APPROVAL OF GIS WEBTECH SOFTWARE PURCHASE**

Chairman Partain reminded the EDA Board of the GIS software presented to them on during the last regularly scheduled meeting. GIS WebTech would enable the county to have an interactive map hosted on their website, which would list all available properties and corresponding demographics. Chairman Partain explained that the EDA had held a meeting with representatives from the City of Fort Ogelthorpe, City of Ringgold, and Catoosa County to determine if this software would be a useable tool. County Clerk Melissa Hannah commented that she would be able to use the software for items outside of economic development, including sewer, flood management, tax assessor data, and 911 management. Both cities also expressed positive feedback, noting that the tool would only be useful if it was regularly updated. Economic Development Coordinator Taylor Kielty would be managing the software. The cost of the license is \$2,500 annually with a two-year upfront contract and subsequent yearly contract renewals. Top of Georgia would be subsidizing \$1,000 annually, leaving the cost to the county at \$1,500 annually. Chairman Partain explained that by voting for this approval, the EDA Board would be asking the Board of Commissioners to provide the funding for the software out of their existing GIS budget.

***Randall Peters made a motion approve the recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for the approval of the GIS WebTech software purchase. Mike Signiski second the motion. Chairman Partain called for all those in favor of***

***approving the motion to indicate so by raising their right hand. There was no opposition and the motion was approved by unanimous consent.***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2018 PLANNING SESSION**

Chairman Rick Partain announced that the Economic Development Authority had begun coordinating a 2018 Planning Session. Economic Development Coordinator Taylor Kielty explained that she has been working with the Tennessee Valley Authority to find a facilitator for the event in late April. Mike Signiski asked that we hold the planning session after the SPLOST vote on May 23, 2018. Taylor agreed to coordinate a planning session date for late May or early June.

## **REPORTS/ DISCUSSION**

### **NORTHWEST GEORGIA JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REPORT**

Keith Barclift, Vice President of the Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority, explained that he has been working on a direct marketing campaign for the four-county region. It will include four separately written brochures going out to 18,000 site selection consultants. It will have links to properties within the region, quality of life information, and other highlights in the Northwest Georgia Region. The campaign will begin in March. Keith has been preparing for the SEDC conference in April and the Site Selector's Guild in March. Regarding leads, Keith discussed an RFI for a data center project needing 10 to 100 megawatts of power to mine bitcoins. Harriet Stokes with North Georgia EMC submitted the property located at 212 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Fort Oglethorpe.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

Taylor Kielty, Economic Development Coordinator, explained she had the same lead as Keith Barclift and reiterated that North Georgia EMC had submitted a site on behalf of the EDA. She also noted that the EDA meetings for both April and May fall on the same days as her training at the University of Georgia's Academy for Economic Development. She asked the board to postpone the regularly scheduled meetings for the months of April and May until 5:00pm on those dates, contingent upon having a quorum, and the board agreed to do so. She reported that she and Keith Barclift had met with Harriet Stokes with NGEMC and Scott Cooper with TVA to discuss workforce issues at the new Bluemont Group factory. Taylor plans on arranging a meeting with management at Bluemont Group and a representative from Georgia Northwestern Technical College to address their workforce needs. Taylor also discussed a tour of Northwest Georgia College and Career academy that she had coordinated for the board to attend on Friday. The purpose of the tour was to better understand the College and Career Academy concept that the Catoosa County Board of Education plans on pursuing. She provided the board with a list of meetings and events she had attended since the last regularly scheduled meeting on January 9, 2018.

## **ADJOURN**

***Randall Peters made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Dickert second the motion. Chairman Partain called for all those in favor of approving the motion to indicate so by raising their hand. There was no opposition and the motion was approved by unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 4:33pm.***