



117 Putnam Drive ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024 ♦ Tel: 706-485-1884 ♦ www.putnamcountyga.us

Monday, April 8, 2013

The Putnam Development Authority met on Monday, April 8, 2013 at approximately 9:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 204, Eatonton, Georgia

PRESENT

Chairman Lynward Lindsey
 Member James Nolan
 Member Bill Sharp
 Member Eugene Smith
 Member Kay Stevens

OTHERS PRESENT

Economic Development Director Charlie Giffen
 Attorney Laura Gailey
 County Clerk Lynn Barber

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lindsey called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. He introduced Lynn Barber and explained that she had volunteered to help with the meetings. (Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes.)

2. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2013 and March 27, 2013

A correction was noted for the March 11, 2013 minutes: under Old Business-Introductions to industry, correct the name Mile Cullen to Mike Cullen.

Motion by: Eugene Smith to approve the March 11, 2013 minutes with the noted correction
 Second by: Bill Sharp

Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Lindsey, Lynward				
Nolan, James	x			
Sharp, Bill	x			
Smith, Eugene	x			
Stevens, Kay	x			

Motion by: James Nolan to approve the March 27, 2013 minutes
 Second by: Eugene Smith

Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Lindsey, Lynward				
Nolan, James	x			
Sharp, Bill	x			
Smith, Eugene	x			
Stevens, Kay	x			

3. *Web Site Update*

A meeting was held with Barbara Tyner. The website will be moving from the Chamber of Commerce site to the Putnam County site. The information on the Chamber's site will be transferred to the new site and updated. Dr. Bob Betzel has volunteered to make new photos. It was suggested to keep industrial information and retail information separate.

4. *A2b Update*

Bill Sharp provided an update; he had a phone conversation with Gary Latz and they have completed work on the roof, they have a total of 210,000 square feet and will lease a portion of that (would like to be able to put that information on the PDA website). Mr. Latz also expressed the importance of work ready training. Mr. Sharp has an appointment with Allison Chestnut on Friday and plans to invite Commissioner Janie Reid to join him. The Uncle Remus Golf Course is on the property line and there are cars frequently parked on the A2b property. They are not opposed, but do not want to be liable for anything that may happen. They would like an agreement with the county. They would also like to the area to be designated as a free trade zone.

5. *Contracting Financial Services*

Rebecca Coker made a proposal to do the bookkeeping and statements and check writing for \$90.00 per quarter.

Motion by: James Nolan to hire Rebecca Coker for financial services at \$90.00 per quarter with Charlie Giffen getting and approving the invoices, Ms. Coker picking them up on approximately the 5th and 20th of each month and producing the checks, getting the checks to the Treasurer who will sign them and give to Mr. Giffen to mail and file the paperwork.

Second by: Lynward Lindsey

Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Lindsey, Lynward				
Nolan, James	x			
Sharp, Bill	x			
Smith, Eugene	x			
Stevens, Kay	x			

6. *Caterpillar Discussion*

Bill Sharp met with Melvin Davis and Rusty Haygood of Oconee County and they visited Caterpillar and toured the facility. Caterpillar currently has 75 employees and hopes to have 300 by the end of 2013 and 1400 by the end of 2018. They are currently manufacturing a mini hydraulic excavator which they will be shipping down Highway 441 to Savannah. It was advised that we need to put together a picture of Putnam County and what we can do for them. Mr. Davis advised that Oconee County has two BOC members on their Chamber of Commerce board and that we need a working development authority board that covers many facets. It was suggested that we may need more members on our PDA board.

7. *Logistics Show*

Bill Sharp attended the Logistics Show with Charlie Giffen. It was recommended to go to Caterpillar and get to know them. They also learned that there is a trucking company in Putnam County, Gene Adams Trucking, that employs 20 people and has 100 trucks. A contact was suggested with Mr. Adams; he has a large warehouse in Savannah and could be an important business which could be connected to Caterpillar.

8. *Site Selection Consultant Proposal*

Charlie Giffen recommends this company and Scenario B of their proposal.

Motion by: Bill Sharp to move forward with Scenario B

Second by: Kay Stevens

Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Lindsey, Lynward				
Nolan, James	x			
Sharp, Bill	x			
Smith, Eugene	x			
Stevens, Kay	x			

(Copy of proposal made a part of the minutes.)

9. *PDA Training*

Bill Sharp attended a training session last week and recommended that everyone should go. It was very helpful and money well spent. He learned that 56% of the Chambers of Commerce in the State of Georgia have Development Authority members on their board.

10. *PDA Member on Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors*

Bill Sharp advised that it is highly recommended for a PDA member to be on the Chamber board; reports need to be given back and forth monthly. A letter could be written requesting this. The PDA should elect a board member to serve if the Chamber agrees. It is very important to maintain a relationship with the Chamber and work together. Eugene Smith suggested that PDA members should just attend the Chamber meetings, but not be board members.

Motion by: Bill Sharp to write a letter to the Chamber of Commerce requesting that a member of PDA sit on their board.

No second was received, therefore the motion died.

11. *Science & Tech Park Update*

Chairman Lynward Lindsey provided an update on the Science & Technology Park. Bids were accepted at the last meeting and paperwork was signed for OneGeorgia Authority for an extension of the work. A six month extension was requested.

12. *Economic Development Director Update*

Charlie Giffen advised that we must have exact things we can offer before going to Caterpillar. The Site Selection Evaluation needs to be completed first before going to Caterpillar. Mr. Giffen has a meeting scheduled with Mr. Mike Mullis in Memphis later this week. He offered some ideas of incentives we could use to recruit businesses, such as: giving land at no cost, tax abatements, having roads and utilities in place. He advised that it is very important for the land to be ready.

Mr. Sharp made a request for the next meeting: would like Mr. Stewart Aaron on the agenda as well as Mr. Lou Benjamin.

13. *Adjournment*

Motion by: Eugene Smith to adjourn

Second by: James Nolan

Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Lindsey, Lynward				
Nolan, James	x			
Sharp, Bill	x			
Smith, Eugene	x			
Stevens, Kay	x			

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:55 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Barber
County Clerk

Lynward Lindsey
Chairman