

# Economic Development Authority

## April 16, 2018 Minutes

Page County Government Center  
Board of Supervisors Room  
103 S. Court Street, Luray, VA 22835  
5:30PM

**Members Present:** Craig Lancto, Chair  
Leslie Currle, Vice Chair  
Jay Dedman  
Mark Dofflemyer  
Greg Foltz  
Joshua Knight  
Romeo Pugliese  
Brooke Newman  
Bart Price

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Liz Lewis Page County ED

**Call to Order:** Craig Lancto called meeting to order. 5:30pm

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Joshua Knight and seconded by Mark Dofflemyer. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Craig Lancto and seconded by Jay Dedman. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Dofflemyer presented the treasurer's report. Mr. Lancto stated that he and Mr. Dedman have an appointment to meet with an attorney to discuss the Clover Project and \$75 is needed for the first visit. Motion made by Josh Knight and seconded by Leslie Currle. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** Mr. Dedman discussed the objective of the Round Table Breakfast, which was set to take place April 17, 2018.

Ms. Currle then discussed the loan program and her findings on the history on the EDA loan program. She reviewed an application example from Waynesboro and stated that Liz Lewis would be responsible for taking the applications from applicant. She then discussed the idea of paying Blue Ridge Bank a flat fee to take care of processing and all documents. Ms. Currle and Mr. Dofflemyer stated they would still be the sub-committee in charge of the loan program. Ms.

Currle stated that a copy of the proposed application and all supporting documents would be sent to all members to be approved next meeting.

Mrs. Lewis shown members an example of Harmon Construction's conceptual drawings that she has gotten from another project, so the members know what to expect from the drawings for the Senior Living Community.

Ms. Currle gave a brief overview of what the program is and what it does. Mr. Lancto stated that he believes that it is a vital outreach program and it's important to promote the EDA. Mr. Dedman agreed and stated he has been doing a lot of outreach with agriculture.

Mr. Lancto then stated he discussed the possibility of getting courses offered at Lord Fairfax or the Tech Center for heavy equipment repairs, since members of the community believe we lack professionals in that field. He stated both representatives he spoke with stated they would need more information and it would be very costly to begin.

#### **New Business:**

Mr. Dedman discussed the status of EDA property. He stated that he spoke with farmers in reference to the possibility of students farming on EDA property and using profits towards a scholarship fund; however, when they arrived to the properties, it appeared that two people were already working the land. Both people stated that although the land did not belong to them, they have harvested hay since the property was vacant. They did not decide what their next step would be in reference to the property.

Mr. Lancto stated he started an EDA page on Facebook, but Mrs. Lewis is going to start another page that is sponsored by the County. Mr. Lancto and Mrs. Lewis discussed the web page on the County website and they both agreed that more information needs to be added. He also stated that the Chamber of Commerce as added their information and events into their "Into the Loop" newsletter.

Mr. Lancto then briefly discussed the idea of sponsoring the Farmer's Association.

Mrs. Lewis then gave an Economic Development update and the possibility of getting Brownfield money into the county. She stated that she is working on the next step with the hemp project that the EDA has been working with, which is speaking with other localities about growing and how to get started. She also stated that she's working on a business guide to help small businesses navigate the system and what steps they need to be taking to get their business started.

**Public Comments:**

Roseanne Smythe- Syntelligent's office space lease is up at Lord Fairfax and they are only able to renew until December. They are looking for office space in the County. They employ approximately 30 employees from Page County. She stated that there are not enough options in the County for rental and buying a building is a possibility; however, they feel more comfortable with.

Mike Uram- Gave praises to members for increasing interest in the County and their outreach and the decrease in unemployment.

**Member Comments:**

Mr. Dedman stated that he believes that Page County has a bad history of working together and the small projects they are finally doing together are a big deal and it's helping work towards doing larger projects.

Mrs. Lewis added another portion of land into the Enterprise Zone.

Mr. Lancto discussed the possible solar farms that are possibly coming into Page County. Two members from Bluemont Tech will be guest speaking at the next meeting.

**Adjourn:** Jay dedman made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Romeo Pugliese. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

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Liz Lewis, Clerk