

KING GEORGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2020

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the rules and procedures previously adopted by the board of supervisors and the EDA allowing for electronic participation by some members with a quorum physically present. This action is a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the governor's orders regarding limiting of gatherings and staying in place during a disaster. Electronic participation is encouraged and pursuant to the governor's emergency orders, a maximum of 10 people will be allowed to be physically present. If you choose to be physical present, you will be screened by authorized staff for signs, symptoms of illness. Based on the result of that screening, certain physical attendees may be denied entry. Call to order occurred at 5:00 p.m. in the Revercomb Building Board Chambers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members Present were Ian Fox and Rick Pabst. Members participating remotely were Dreda Newman, Amberleigh Wankel, Beckey Gallamore and Dylan Teaford. Also present were Nick Minor and Michelle Washington. Also participating remotely was Kim Wilson. Absent was Guy Booth.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Approval of March 2020 Meeting Minutes

Becky Gallamore made the motion to approve the March 2020 minutes. Amberleigh Wankel seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Board Member Reports

Dreda Newman reported that My Place has opened in the last 10 days or so.

Amberley Wankel had no report.

Kim Wilson- no report.

Nick Minor had no formal report but wanted to discuss the grant.

New Business

A. Overview of Grant

Background on grant money. County received \$2.3 million from the Cares Act. We can start to prepare for planning. 10% of this money equates to about \$230,000 that will be distributed to businesses in form of grants. Our program is essentially modeled after other localities that have received their money before us.

Discussion ensued regarding timeframe, kind of businesses and how it would go out.

Would like marketing for a week. Answer their questions. Start receiving applications and by third week establish eligibility. Principle place of business is King George, 1 to 50 full-time employees, operational for one year and have county business license. Also, must be willing to enter into an agreement with the county.

Unidentified male speaker questioned what about one full time employee is the sole proprietor?

Ian Fox Pointed out that 10% of the total allocation seems a bit disproportionately small.
Nick miner pointed out that if you are a business you may not be able to double and receive a loan from this program if you have received money from PPP.
Discussion also included internal process, online application and how it would be awarded, first come first serve or proportionate. A third option was suggested about proportioning the money based on number of applicants. And discussion was held regarding merit scoring.
Ian Fox and Rick Pabst volunteered to assist in reviewing applications when they come in.

B. Broadband Committee

The county received \$30,000-dollar grant to engage a consultant for feasibility study for cost effectiveness of broadband. Adding fiber or essentially upgrading all substations using federal co-ops, providing equal service to every resident. It is a partnership.
Time frame for this project is 2020.
There will be two additions to the committee from the school system, Dane Hopper and Christine Gale.

C. Potential Lease in the Industrial Park

Nick Minor relayed a gentleman has reached out with a proposal for using the industrial park as a possible farming venture for growing hemp, this can be used for different materials. This for commercial use, and they are looking to build a processing center.
Need two members to start a conversation to clarify.
Discussion of potential risks and contacting county attorney.

D. Update of Rail Repair

Nick Minor reported that project has been completed and came in under budget. The company that performed the work was Mortgage Real Service. A member wanted to know what part was repaired.

Old Business

There was no old business presented for discussion.

Adjourn

There being no objections the meeting was adjourned. At 6:07 pm.