Orange County, Virginia

Economic Development Authority
Minutes
March 17, 2009

A special meeting of the Orange County Economic Development Authority was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, beginning at 7:04 PM, in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room located in the basement of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: Chairman Jim White; Winston Sides; Daman Irby and Rick Sherman. Absent: Vice-Chairman Rob Marquis; Lloyd M. "Doc" Garnett; and Michael Zummo. Also present: Teel Goodwin, Board of Supervisors representative; Julie Jordan, Assistant County Administrator; Michelle Ratcliff, Secretary; and Robin Knepper, Public.

RE: CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and established a quorum.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES (JANUARY 29, 2009)

Mr. Sides motioned, seconded by Mr. Sherman to approve the January 29 minutes as presented. Ayes: White, Sides, Sherman and Irby. Nays: None. Absent: Marquis, Garnett and Zummo.

RE: EDA BYLAWS

Julie Jordan presented comments from Sharon Pandak, County Attorney, including, an answer to a specific question about the composition of a quorum.

Quorum – Section 15.2-4904.E. four (4) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum except that no facilities owned by the authority shall be leased or disposed of in any manner without a majority vote of the members of the Board. No vacancy in the membership of the Board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all powers and perform all duties of the Board. Section V.(e) of the Bylaws says exactly this.

Language about the check writing policy was also discussed. Ms. Jordan will draft the necessary changes to the by-laws and present them to the Board for approval at the May 14 meeting.

RE: BUDGET

Julie Jordan presented information on the Economic Development Authority's Budget. Ms. Jordan provided current account balances, estimation of uncommitted funds and the FY2010 proposed budget by categories. Discussion ensued including, county appropriation, contingencies and incentives and meeting the 15% budget cut requested by the Board of Supervisors.

RE: WAL-MART RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Chairman White thanked Doc Garnett and Rick Sherman for their effort on creating the Wal-Mart Resolution of Support. Mr. Sherman stated he presented a draft revision of the resolution to the Orange Town Council and that they endorsed his action on this resolution and provided him with feedback. Teel Goodwin, Board of Supervisor Representative, suggested we present the resolution to Board of Supervisors and then also present at the public hearing.

RESOLUTION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, continuing economic development is necessary for the ***Citizens' of Orange County*** prosperity and their quality of life, as well as for the financial stability and administrative quality of the ***Citizens'*** governments; and

WHEREAS, the ***Orange Economic Development Authority*** ("E. D. A.") was established by the ***People of Orange County*** through their elected servants and consistent with the statutory requirements of ***The Commonwealth of Virginia***, for purposes of promoting balanced growth and development within Orange County; and

WHEREAS, included among its lawfully authorized methods of effecting said purpose, the ***Orange County E. D. A.*** may offer advice and counsel to the ***Orange County Board of Supervisors*** regarding matters affecting the economic development of the ***County***; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ***Special Use Permit Application*** submitted to the ***County*** by ***JDC Ventures, LLC*** on behalf of ***Wal-mart Stores, Inc***., for a ***Wal-mart*** retail facility at the intersection of Routes 3 and 20, is consistent with County Zoning Regulations and all previous and current County Comprehensive Plans; and

WHEREAS, the properties adjoining the proposed ***Wal-mart*** site, are already developed with multiple commercial enterprises, and the site proposed is ***not*** central to the history of the ***Battle of the Wilderness***, nor necessary to the preservation mandate of the ***Wilderness Battlefield National Park***, as prescribed by any Act of ***The Congress of the United States***; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ***Wal-mart*** facility will bring hundreds of needed jobs to ***Orange County*** residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ***Wal-mart*** facility will provide convenient shopping opportunities for many of the necessities of life – clothing, groceries, pharmaceuticals, etc. – to many ***Orange County Citizens***, who must otherwise travel to other communities for such needs; and

WHEREAS, the resultant real estate improvements and the retail sales volume will provide needed tax revenues to the ***County*** for the benefit of our children's schools, for road maintenance, fire, rescue and police protection and other services needed by the ***Citizens***.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the ***Orange County Economic Development Authority***, that the ***Orange County Board of Supervisors*** is urged to approve the ***Special Use Permit Application*** on behalf of ***Wal-mart Stores, Inc.***

Mr. Sherman motioned, seconded by Mr. Irby to accept the resolution as presented. Ayes: White, Sides, Sherman and Irby. Nays: None. Absent: Marquis, Garnett and Zummo.

RE: TIMBER TRUSS ROAD UPDATE

Julie Jordan stated the money for the project is still intact and approved for our project. Ms. Jordan commented that all documentation necessary has been received and accepted by VDOT. Ms. Jordan explained that the plans are to start on the project in the spring and the Richmond office has sent word to our VDOT office that they can proceed on with the project. Ms. Jordan further explained that making changes to how the project was bid or administered would be problematic.

RE: UPDATE ON ZONING REVISIONS-CHAIRMAN WHITE AND WINSTON SIDES

Chairman White and Winston Sides gave an update on the Zoning Committee meetings. Discussion ensued including, industry activity to date and next steps for the document.

RE: SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Work continues on support of existing business through programs like: Building Blocks Program, Entrepreneur Express and our Orange-Louisa Manufacturer's Breakfast.
- Work continues with the schools on the Orange County Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee and Career Tours.
- Work continues with the Town and ODA on the business environment and the upcoming Bike VA event.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

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James K. White, Chairman

Attest: _____

Julie G. Jordan, Secretary