

**CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA
4:05 pm
September 19, 2012**

Present: Joe Mobley, Greg Clary, Virginia Hall, Paz Patel, Rev. Bill Randall, Debbie Ricks, Grady Williams (Counsel/Interim Executive Director), Matt Welch, Chip Dobson (conf. Phone)

Absent: Jan Conrad

Staff: Kellie Collins and John Tabor.

Guests: Mr. Tom Watson

Call to Order: Chairman Mr. Joe Mobley called the Clay County Development Authority (“CCDA”) Board meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Invocation: Reverend Bill Randall.

Presentations

a. A Concept Worth Pursing-Mr. Tom Watson

Mr. Tom Watson came in to speak to the board about Cecil Field and how to bring in new jobs to Clay County.

Approval of Minutes: Virginia Hall moved to approve the minutes of the August 15th meeting. Matt Welch seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Debbie Ricks and the Finance Committee went over each line item on the budget. The Finance Committee is proposing to attentively adopting the budget. The board went into discussion about certain line items for the budget. Matt Welch recommends the board to table the budget until we hire the new Economic Development President. John Tabor commented saying the new president’s expectation is to engage in the strategic visioning process with this group and to write a grant to this group of more detailed work and what they will be accounted for. Joe Mobley said this board will have more say than ever on his or her job description duties. Matt Welch made the comment we will show a loss in the budget this year, Joe Mobley said we need to issue two bonds per year to make our budget, and he’s hoping the investment we made with Grady is knowing how. The Finance Committee recommended we move the finances to FirstAtlantic Bank, they do public funds and they pay interest and Wells Fargo does not. We are proposing to move our operating funds to First Atlantic, Greg Clary seconded. Matt Welch made a motion to table the budget till next month, Greg Clary seconded, and the motion carried.

Attorney's Report:

- a. **1286 Harbor Road:** Grady Williams gave an update on Harbor Roads sales. The building is insured and the liability insurance is in place. We are hoping to close in the next week or two.
- b. **Big League Dreams:** Greg Clary reported that he and Grady Williams had two meetings with the county and staff of the BLD. Greg is recommending the board needs to make a decision if we are going to have ownership or a management role in the project. Joe Mobley feels if the county owns this facility, certain things will not happen and that will kill it. This board needs to decide what roll we want to play in the operation of this organization. First the park needs to be visible, we need to be involved in selecting the right location, and we need to decide if were engaged to owning or managing this organization. Greg, we need to demonstrate that Economic Development is worth the investment in the park. The board went into discussion about how much this property is worth and Matt Welch will email Grady a rough estimate next week on how much it could be worth. The board is going to pursue taking ownership of this organization. Joe Mobley asked Grady Williams to prepare a 3 to 4 bullet proof resolution that the board can adopt at the next meeting and to be prepared for any special meetings.

Economic Development Report:

John Tabor reported there is one project that we are working on right now. This inquiry came and he contacted Van Royal who sits on the Choose Clay Board and we have been working very closely with the Clay County Manager, Stephanie Kopelousos. We have had a number of meetings with different organizations, this particular company wants the land for a small amount, but we are working with the county to see what kind of a package of tax rebate incentives we can put together, and try and make that number bigger. If we close this deal it will bring in 85 new jobs to Clay County and it is a \$100 million dollar investment. This is a very attractive project and could bring in more money. He will keep the Board informed on any new information. Joe Mobley will keep you posted on the hiring of the new Economic Development president.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at 4:00 PM.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM