

AT A JOINT WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, HELD ON THE 24TH DAY OF JUNE 2014, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER BOARD ROOM, 101 MOUNTS BAY ROAD, JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Board of Supervisors:

Mary K. Jones, Chairman, Berkeley District
Michael J. Hipple, Vice Chairman, Powhatan District
James G. Kennedy, Stonehouse District
Kevin D. Onizuk, Jamestown District
John J. McGlennon, Roberts District

Leo R. Rogers, County Attorney
M. Douglas Powell, Acting County Administrator

Economic Development Authority:

Marshall Warner, Chairman
Tim Harris
Thomas (Tom) Tingle
Paul Gerhardt
Leanne DuBois

Russell Seymour, Director of Economic Development, Secretary to the Economic Development Authority

C. BOARD DISCUSSIONS

1. Joint Meeting with the Economic Development Authority

Mr. Warner called the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to order.

Mr. Warner began by addressing the Board in regards to the 2012-2014 Strategic Initiatives.

Mr. Harris addressed the first of the Strategic Initiative; fostering a supportive economic environment for business, in order to retain businesses and encourage local expansion.

Mr. Gerhardt discussed the second Strategic Initiative; continue attraction efforts of traditional businesses to establish operations in James City County.

Ms. DuBois explained the third Strategic Initiative; increase the number of knowledge-based and start-up businesses in James City County and create a spirit of an entrepreneurial and venture-seeking community.

ADOPTED

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**Board of Supervisors
James City County, VA**

Mr. Tingle addressed the fourth Strategic Initiative, Regional Collaboration.

Mr. Warner discussed the fifth Strategic Initiative, Tourism. He continued on to address the Strategic Initiatives for 2014-2015.

Mr. Hipple stated that he admired all of the hard work that the EDA does.

Mr. Onizuk asked what the competitive advantages are and what challenges are faced by the EDA in attempting to attract and to retain current businesses, and is there anything that the Board of Supervisors can do to support the EDA.

Mr. Seymour replied that the quality of the community is one of the greatest strengths that James City County has. One of the greatest challenges is the lack of available business space.

Mr. Tingle expressed that businesses are looking for predictability and want a simple process to start or relocate businesses to James City County. The process should be more of an administrative process and less of a legislative process.

Mr. Kennedy asked if there was a locality to emulate and who would that locality be.

Mr. Tingle stated that there is no singular ideal locality to emulate that there are different aspects from different jurisdictions that should be emulated.

Mr. Kennedy indicated that he would like to see a list of things delivered to Mr. Seymour from the EDA that the County could do to streamline the process of starting or relocating business to James City County. He continued that he would like to see what could be done in the area of agriculture as well. He also stated that he would like to see the EDA removed from being involved with tourism.

Mr. Gerhardt stated that he would like to see what guidance the Board has in regards to tourism.

Mr. Onizuk stated that from the businesses that he has been talking to there seems to be some miscommunication about what hurdles there are in James City County in doing business here.

Mr. Kennedy confirmed that it is not easy to do business in the County but that is because the County wants quality businesses.

Mr. McGlennon stated in the businesses that he had been in contact with that the business owners who said that it was in fact very easy to get started and do business in James City County. He suggested that maybe there should be some additional focus on the lodging industry. He asked what was going on with bonding businesses.

Mr. Seymour stated that there is not that much activity in bonding businesses due to current interest rates being low.

Mr. Kennedy asked about what the EDA was hearing about workforce housing from business owners.

Mr. Warner stated that most of his employees live in Newport News and Gloucester and commute in because of the cost of housing.

Mr. Kennedy asked about the relationship between Thomas Nelson Workforce Development and the EDA.

Mr. Seymour stated that there is a positive relationship between Thomas Nelson and local businesses.

Mr. Kennedy expressed that he would like to see the EDA coordinate with Thomas Nelson in training for the hospitality industry.

Mr. Hipple stated that he would like to see the perception change that it is hard to do business in James City County. He would like to see specific lists of requirements for different business to do business here.

Mr. Onizuk stated that he would like to see more predictability in doing business in James City County. He feels that a lot of problems are based on perception.

Mr. McGlennon asked if James City County has lost businesses to other localities.

Mr. Seymour stated that there has not been an issue with retaining businesses.

Mr. Kennedy mentioned that he hears that the biggest problems are setbacks, stormwater management, energy efficiency, and design guidelines.

Mr. Harris stated that a lot of issues that he has heard about are not actual County regulations but state and federal regulations that are being blamed on the County such as stormwater regulations.

Ms. Jones conveyed her support of the EDA and their strategic initiatives. She asked Mr. Seymour to provide the Board with information as far as what the Board could do to help there be site ready property for businesses in James City County.

Mr. Seymour stated that he would look into the issue and see what the Board could do to assist the EDA. Currently the available non-retail business space such as the McLaws Circle area is about at capacity. The industrial space that is in the County is quickly filling up as well.

Ms. Jones indicated that she was glad that the Business Climate Task Force would be updated. She stated that she would like to know what the County can do to work with citizens to get through upcoming and existing state and federal regulations. During the last citizen survey there was a 95 percent interest in vocational technical training.

Ms. Dubois stated that she has seen a great deal of growth of the entrepreneurship spirit in the county in the last several years.

Ms. Jones stated that she has appreciated the growth of sports tourism in James City County.

Mr. Hipple asked if there was anything else that the EDA wanted the Board to address that had not been brought up so far this evening.

Mr. Warner stated that the EDA needed to focus on retention and bringing in new businesses to the County rather than tourism.

Mr. Onizuk stated that there are some differences between the EDA and the Chamber and Tourism Alliance.

Mr. Harris stated that what needs to be retained are the tourists themselves.

Ms. Jones stated that she would like to contact new startup businesses to see what the County could have done better in their start up process.

At 5:49 p.m., Mr. Warner adjourned the Economic Development Authority.

Mr. Clive Graham, Lead Consultant from Environmental Resource Management, gave a presentation to the Board about Rural Economic Development.

Ms. Jones asked what could be done by the County to help promote agribusiness in the County.

Ms. Dubois stated that the real issue is putting opportunities together with the citizens who own the land.

Mr. Kennedy remarked that the problem is that farms have closed in James City County. He states that the land is available in the County; however, the land needs to be farmed and is sitting unused.

Ms. Dubois stated that there is no one specifically focused on rural economic development.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he would like to see more focus on helping citizens with rural lands getting involved in agribusiness.

Mr. Graham stated that there is a demand for local grown product however there is not the supply in the area.

Mr. Kennedy asked if there was a template for starting an agribusiness.

Ms. Dubois stated that Virginia Tech does have programs to help people get started in agribusiness.

Mr. Graham replied that there is an increasing group of people who have started an agribusiness; however, there may not be a template but there is the knowledge available to help citizens.

Mr. Kennedy stated that it will get to the point that the County needs to decide what the cost is going to be to get help foster agribusiness.

Mr. Hipple stated that the problem he sees is how to get the product out to the consumers.

Ms. Jones thanked the members of the EDA for joining the Board and for all their efforts.

2. Consideration of a Personnel Matter, the Appointment of Individuals to County Boards and/or Commissions Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia

- a. Colonial Group Home Commission
- b. Board of Building Adjustments and Appeals
- c. Williamsburg Area Arts Commission
- d. Economic Development Authority
- e. Historical Commission
- f. Stormwater Program Advisory Commission

Mr. McGlennon made a motion to appoint the following individuals: Mr. Anthony Conyers reappointed to new four-year term on the Colonial Group Home Commission; Mr. Timothy Mills

reappointed to a new five-year term on the Board of Building Adjustments and Appeals; Mr. Greg Lilly and Ms. Karlene Jennings reappointed to new three-year terms on the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission; Mr. Stephen Montgomery and Mr. Marshall Warner reappointed to new four-year terms on the Economic Development Authority; Mr. Allen Ayers, Mr. Roger Schmidt, and Mr. Richard Strenkowski reappointed to new four-year terms on the Stormwater Program Advisory Commission; Mr. Michael Carter appointed to a new three-year term on the Historical Commission; Ms. Karlene Jennings and Mr. Peter Gushue reappointed to new one-year terms on the Historical Commission; Mr. John Labanish and Mr. Alain Outlaw reappointed to new two-year terms on the Historical Commission; and Mr. Lafayette Jones reappointed to a new three-year term on the Historical Commission

On a roll call vote, the vote was: AYE: Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Hipple, Mr. McGlennon, Mr. Onizuk, Ms. Jones, (5). NAY: (0).

D. CLOSED SESSION

Mr. McGlennon made a motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to the Code Section listed on the Agenda.

On a roll call vote, the vote was: AYE: Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Hipple, Mr. McGlennon, Mr. Onizuk, Ms. Jones, (5). NAY: (0).

At 5:50 p.m. the Board entered into Closed Session.

1. Consideration of a Personnel Matter, the Discussion of Candidates for the County Administrator, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia

At 5:59 p.m., the Board reentered Open Session.

Mr. McGlennon made a motion to certify the Closed Session.

On a roll call vote, the vote was: AYE: Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Hipple, Mr. McGlennon, Mr. Onizuk, Ms. Jones, (5). NAY: (0).

RESOLUTION

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

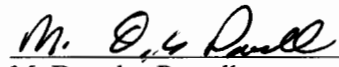
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, (Board) has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge: i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies; and ii) only such public business matters were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board as were identified in the motion, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), consideration of a Personnel Matter, the discussion of candidates for the County Administrator.

E. RECESS – until Regular Meeting at 7 p.m.

At 6:07 p.m., Ms. Jones recessed the Board.



M. Douglas Powell
Clerk to the Board

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