

# Campbell County Economic Development Commission

October 21, 2004

The regular meeting of the Campbell County Economic Development Commission was held on Thursday, October 21, 2004 in the Campbell County Library Conference Room, Rustburg, Virginia.

## **Members Present:**

Don Atkins  
William E. Calohan, III  
Herbert Guthrie  
O. Richard Metz  
Kyle Rosser  
Frank A. Wright

## **Those Absent:**

William Anderson  
Marvin L. Clements  
G. Michael Damron  
William Overacre  
Lester Wooldridge

## **Also Present:**

R. David Laurrell, County Administrator  
J. Michael Davidson, Economic Development Director  
Lee Cobb, Executive Director, Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership  
Jamie Banton, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Richard Metz called the meeting to order at 12:10PM. The August 19, 2004 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

For informational purposes, the Commission was provided a Project Updates Report. Mr. Davidson briefly reviewed the items listed on the report.

// Mr. Davidson provided the Commission members with the Executive Summary of the Small Business Incubator Feasibility Study completed by Virginia Tech as requested by the Industrial Development Authority. Virginia Tech staff concluded that Campbell County could support a satellite incubator, or Phase II incubator, of the Lynchburg Small Business Development Center. However, Virginia Tech staff questioned funding commitments for the project. To be successful, a small business incubator must be able to function without the impediments of long-term capital debt.

// Next, Mr. Davidson announced that the Campbell County Board of Supervisors voted to pay meeting stipends for all board authorized committees and commissions. For Commission members who wish to receive stipends, Campbell County will pay \$85 for each meeting attended after July 1, 2005. Checks will be mailed from the County

Payroll Office once each quarter. Mr. Davidson provided the forms necessary to process the payments. Commission members who wish to receive payment for meetings must return the forms to the Economic Development Department by January 1, 2005.

// Mr. Davidson introduced Mr. Lee Cobb, the Executive Director of the Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership. Mr. Cobb overviewed the history of the organization and his involvement with its creation. After several years working with other organizations, Mr. Cobb returned to the Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership in 2003. As the organization's primary purpose is to market the area, Mr. Cobb stated that his office has developed new marketing materials to help rebuild the identity of the region again. Mr. Cobb provided the Commission with an overview of the organization's current marketing efforts.

Since Mr. Cobb's return, Region 2000 contracted with a consultant to bring Canadian firms to the area. He has also worked to build our relationship with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. In addition, Roger Beeker, formerly of Wiley & Wilson, joined the Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership in 2004 to head up the existing industries program, an existing business visitation program. Since July 1, 2004, Mr. Beeker has placed 50 calls to existing industries in Region 2000. Carolyn Wagner, formerly of the Region 2000 Regional Commission, also joined the Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership in 2004.

Mr. Cobb also advised the Commission on the future plans and initiatives of the Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership. General discussion with Commission members followed.

// Because of a conflict with the annual Region 2000 Holiday Lunch with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership in Richmond, Mr. Davidson requested the December 2004 Commission meeting be changed. The Commission agreed to meet again on December 9, 2004 at 12:00PM.

Following a general discussion of the before-mentioned matters and with no other items presented for consideration, the meeting adjourned at 1:12PM until Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 12:00PM.

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