

**Campbell County  
Economic Development Commission**

**January 15, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Campbell County Economic Development Commission was held on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in the Campbell County Haberer Building Board Level Multi-use Room, Rustburg, Virginia.

**Members Present:**

Lester Wooldridge, Chairman  
William Calohan, Vice-Chairman  
Herbert Guthrie  
Gary Cantwell  
Scott Tweedy  
William Anderson  
William Overacre  
William R. Reeves, Jr.  
Kyle Rosser  
Richard Carroll  
G. Michael Damron  
D. Vance Driskill

**Also Present:**

R. David Laurrell, County Administrator  
J. Michael Davidson, Director, Economic Development  
Amy R. Allen, Economic Development Administrative Assistant  
Brandon S. Turner, Program Manager

**Members Absent:**

None

// Chairman Wooldridge called the meeting to order at 12:13 pm. Chairman Wooldridge asked if there were any additions or corrections to the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting minutes. With no changes or corrections recommended, upon a motion by Mr. Damron, seconded by Mr. Tweedy, and duly adopted by unanimous vote, the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Economic Development Commission meeting minutes were approved as read. Chairman Wooldridge then turned the meeting over to Mr. Davidson.

**Matters from the Director:**

// Mr. Davidson addressed his first item on the agenda, introduction of his new staff members. Mr. Davidson introduced Amy R. Allen, Administrative Assistant and Brandon S. Turner, Project Manager. Amy comes to us from the Central Virginia Training Center where she was for 3 ½ years. Brandon comes to us with a lot of work experience from the Altavista and Campbell County area. Brandon worked for Region 2000 Local Government Council while getting his Master's Degree from Lynchburg College. The members welcomed both of the new employees.

// Mr. Davidson moved to the next item on the agenda, the update on the Incentive Policy. At the last commission meeting, the committee voted and approved the revisions to the Incentive Policy that was taken to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors adopted them at the commission's recommendation. The revised Incentive Policy is currently in place. There were some concern to up the employment request for some jobs; the reason for the concerns was looking at the return on

investment that the Board of Supervisors uses. Analysis was done and it turns out that it was not as bad as was originally discussed in October 2008. Looking at the last 12 months there would have been less than \$1000 to have occurred. The Board of Supervisor did approve the increase at the commission's recommendation. Mr. Davidson thanked the members for their support and work on this issue.

// Mr. Davidson moved to his next item on the agenda, Project Updates. Mr. Davidson reported that the hotel at Airport East is projected to open on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. At this time, that date is not absolute, however that was the last date that was received from the project. Mr. David Laurell asked if Liberty Mountain Drive would open at the same time as the hotel. Mr. Davidson answered that the road is fine and useable to the rear of the hotel; however Mr. Davidson was not certain when the traffic light would become four way operational. Chairman Wooldridge stated that there is a fair amount of traffic trying to exit from the area where the light is not operational now; Mr. Davidson stated that he assumed that the four way light would be operational once the hotel opens.

// Mr. Davidson discussed the next item on the agenda, the ED FY 2010 Priorities & Initiatives. Mr. Davidson provided a draft copy of the Priorities & Initiatives to the members and discussed the different types. There are four types: 1) Ongoing responsibilities such as routine activities that are most important, not necessarily everything someone does; 2) Priority 1 – expected to be completed in 12 months (for FY10-July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010); 3) Priority 2 - expected to be completed in 24 months (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011), you can work on these as time permits otherwise these items would move to priority one on July 1, 2010; 4) Future Initiatives – these work through being a priority two to one (no time frame specified). The goal was to briefly run through what is being presented to the Board of Supervisors. The members were urged to contact Mr. Davidson by phone or email if they had any questions.

// Mr. Davidson gave the members an update on the Economic Education Training. Cheryl Ayers visited with the commission six to seven months ago to talk about the Virginia Council on Economic Education received Tobacco money for grant tuition at Lynchburg College. Cheryl stated that because of the state budget cutbacks would continue the program as is with adding Patrick and Franklin County; both counties are Tobacco eligible counties. Cheryl mentioned that she is always open to ideas or comments for their program at Lynchburg College. Mr. Cantwell reminded the members that this would allow further economic training for teachers for another year. If the members would like further information they were encouraged to contact Mr. Davidson or Mr. Cantwell.

// Mr. Davidson provided all the members with the completed Tourism Brochure. If more copies are needed, please let Mr. Davidson's office know.

**Matters from the County Administrator:**

// Mr. Laurell had no items for discussion. One member asked Mr. Laurell how the home values in Campbell County were being affected by the economy. Mr. Laurell stated that they are not off by much at this time.

**Matters from Commission Members:**

// Mr. Damron said he would like to mention that the Historical Society Calendar is now for sale around the county; as well as at the Recreation Department.

Following a general discussion of the aforementioned matters, and with no other items presented for consideration, upon a motion by Mr. Cantwell, and duly adopted by unanimous vote, the Economic Development Commission adjourned at 12:52 pm.