

**Campbell County  
Economic Development Commission  
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee**

**February 15, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Campbell County Economic Development Commission and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2007 Update Committee was held on Thursday, February 15, 2007, in the Campbell County Historic Courthouse Conference Room, Rustburg, Virginia.

**Members Present:**

O. Richard Metz, Chairman  
Vance Driskill  
G. Michael Damron  
Gary Cantwell  
William Calohan  
Donald Atkins  
David Hoehne  
Herbert W. Guthrie  
Willie Thornhill  
Scott Tweedy  
Lester Wooldridge  
William F. Overacre  
Patty Anderson  
Waverly Coggsdale  
Linda Rodriguez

**Also Present:**

R. David Laurrell, County Administrator  
J. Michael Davidson, Director of Economic Development  
Rebecca Schwarz, Economic Development Administrative Assistant

Mr. Metz called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm. Upon review by the Committee, the December 14, 2006, minutes were approved as presented.

// Mr. Metz began with a welcome and introduction of new Economic Development Commission member Gary Cantwell. He asked Mr. Cantwell to give the CEDS Committee a brief synopsis of his background. Mr. Cantwell told the Committee of his experience in the corporate world and with labor markets and workforces.

**Matters from the Director:**

// Following the introduction of Mr. Cantwell, Mr. Metz turned the meeting over to Mr. Davidson. Mr. Davidson explained that he wished to deviate slightly from the printed agenda to discuss the public informational meetings that were held in Altavista, Rustburg, and Brookneal. There were about 20 people total in attendance at the meetings.

Unfortunately, we did not receive a notable amount of feedback regarding the CEDS projects and priorities, but it was still good to give people an opportunity to come and hear what is going on with the CEDS.

// Mr. Davidson next discussed the CEDS projects and priorities. He noted that the timelines of certain projects determine their priority ranking. He asked for Committee input on the ranking of the projects based on the survey feedback received at the prior CEDS meeting. The feedback indicated Vocational Training Program Upgrade to be the most important project to the Committee, with Seneca Commerce Park ranking second most important. General discussion followed regarding the projects and the details involved in their completion.

The Committee also discussed the addition of new projects to the 2003 CEDS projects list. It decided to add six projects to the list:

- Brookneal 501 Waterline Extension
- HUB Zone Designation
- Last Mile Broadband Access
- Long-Term Planning
- Seneca Park - Flex Space Building
- Transportation

In addition, following discussion of the scope and particulars of the Vocational Training Program Upgrade project, members decided to change this project's name to Workforce Training.

// Next the Committee discussed the SWOT Response Feedback sheet. General discussion of Campbell County's Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats followed.

// Given the addition of new projects to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and the fact the many members still have not completed the SWOT Response Feedback sheet, the CEDS Committee decided to complete one more round of surveys. Staff will send all members a SWOT Response Feedback sheet and an updated project list for the Committee to re-rank the projects, as well have the option to suggest deletion of projects that are already completed or are not priorities within the county at this time. Members are to return completed surveys to staff no later than Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. This will allow staff sufficient time to incorporate changes into the CEDS document before the next meeting on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The Committee agreed that it wishes to complete final discussions of changes and updates to the CEDS document by the June 21, 2007, meeting.

Mr. Metz asked if there were any matters for discussion from the County Administrator or Committee members. With no more matters for discussion, on a motion by Mr. Metz, seconded by Mr. Tweedy, the Campbell County Economic Development Commission and CEDS Committee adjourned at 1:10 PM.