

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

June 15, 2006

The regular meeting of the Campbell County Economic Development Commission and the inaugural meeting of the 2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee was held on Thursday, June 15, 2006 in the Campbell County Historic Courthouse Conference Room, Rustburg, Virginia.

Members Present:

O. Richard Metz
J. Michael Davidson
Vance Driskill
Patti Anderson
Herbert Guthrie
Willie Thornhill
Sharon Brown
William E. Calohan, III
William Anderson
Bill Gillespie
Waverly Coggsdale
Don Atkins
Mike Damron
David Laurell
Linda Rodriquez
Ruth Pillow

Also Present:

Jamie Banton, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Davidson called the meeting to order at 12:13 pm. After introductions were completed, the April 20, 2006 Economic Development Commission meeting minutes were approved without changes.

Matters from the Director

// Mr. Davidson presented the Committee with a Project Updates Report. General discussion of the updates followed.

// Next, Mr. Davidson provided the Committee with a brief history of the Campbell County CEDS process. A CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) is a continuous planning process developed with community participation that addresses the economic problems and potential of a particular area. The strategy is designed to promote sustainable economic development and opportunity, create jobs and improve the quality of life of a locality. The CEDS process incorporates strategic planning – overall planning on large scale operations, as well as tactical planning which includes accomplishing the goals identified by strategic planning.

The original CEDS listed 11 goals with 35 short term and 27 long term implementation strategies. Since the adoption of the original CEDS in 2003, Campbell County took positive action/steps on 9 of the 11 goals. The county has also worked on 17 of the 35 short term strategies and 6 of the 27 long term strategies. For example, “improve the variety of retail goods and services to county residents”: Wal-mart, Wards Crossing West; “retain and expand existing industries”: since 2003, we had ten expansions of existing business; “promote entrepreneurial and small and minority business development”; in Aug-2005, we adopted our first minority and small business incentive policy.

To qualify for federal grant funds, you have to have an updated CEDS that has the project(s) you want the funding for included in the recommendations.

Mr. Davidson provided the Committee with the 2003 CEDS Executive Summary for review. He noted that the complete document is available online at www.CampbellVirginia.com.

Mr. Davidson explained that the CEDS process will involve the review of data collected by Ms. Banton, as well as several community meetings to be held sometime in September 2006. Staff will collect the data for the Committee to evaluate and discuss. The Committee will meet bi-monthly until February 2007. The purpose of the 2006 CEDS Committee is to re-evaluate the outcomes of the 2003 CEDS to see if the goals have been met, are still relevant or if the goals need to be refined. The data collected will be analyzed to try and come up with some conclusions to show where the county’s economy is now and where it is headed. Ms. Banton noted that current data for the Towns of Altavista and Brookneal may be difficult to find because the decennial census will not be held until 2010. General discussion followed.

// The CED Committee requested a contact list mailed with the next meeting minutes.

Following a general discussion of the before-mentioned matters and with no other items presented for consideration, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm until Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 12:00 pm.