

**PAGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES (EDA)
January 20, 2021
5:30 p.m.
103 South Court Street, Suite F
Luray, VA**

CALL TO ORDER

Missie Deibert called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

EDA MEMBERS PRESENT

Missie Deibert
Denise Meadows
Bart Price
Alex White
Jay Dedman

OTHERS PRESENT

Liz Lewis, Economic Development Coordinator

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda: Jay Dedman, seconded Alex White Ayes (5) Nays (0)

MINUTES

Adjust minutes to reflect Jason Pettit was present in November. **Motion to add Jason Pettit as member present at the November 16, 2020 meeting: Jay Dedman, seconded Alex White Ayes (5) Nays (0)**

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Checking Account Total \$74,889.93 (includes the \$11,500 check from the county)
 - Savings Account Total \$20,005.13 (Starkey Loan Paid in Full)
 - CD's – \$88,321.45 and \$104,897.10
 - Follow up on Bank transfers – Blue Ridge to Pioneer
 - Bring audit next month (send \$2,500.00 check audit is complete)
 - Stipends \$650.00, Form Networks bill \$150.00, Luray Page Chamber Membership fee \$200.00, Total \$1,000.00
- Motion to approve the invoices: Jay Dedman, seconded Alex White Ayes (5) Nays (0)**

OLD BUSINESS

- Board Positions Remaining
- Website Civic Plus
- Grant Portal Update – Press Release Published, Page One awarded \$10,000.00 Grant from Wrangler Blue Bell Foundation
- Talent Website – Northern Shenandoah Valley (agreed \$500, no invoice yet)
- EDA Training Opportunities – Alex will send request Shenandoah Valley Travel Partnership, Liz mentioned Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDP)

NEW BUSINESS

- EDA Plan 2021 – Lot Tax Map A-2A5-A-79 – Split Zone, Rezone parcel to one zone M1. No cost per Town of Luray.
Motion to approve the rezoning of split zoned Lot A-2A5-A-79 to all M1 in Town of Luray Zoning: Alex White, seconded Jay Dedman Ayes (5) Nays (0)
- Elect Officers – postponed until next month's meeting
- Remote meeting change in bylaws – postponed until next month's meeting bylaw amendments
- Enterprise Zone – incentives to be reimbursed to Tactical Walls and the Mimslyn Inn by the County of Page is a total of \$4,333.46; Town of Luray to reimburse the Mimslyn Inn a total of \$3,963.54; Town of Shenandoah to reimburse Tactical Walls a total of \$1,079.14. Future businesses expected to apply in 2021: airport, Blue Ridge Bank, IBR and the Mimslyn Inn.
- Brainstorm ideas to adopt goals for 2021 – Broadband, inactive businesses and vacant lots/resources, facilitate investors, farmers market, entrepreneurial start up program, visit other similar communities, promote EDA property
- Airport project completed – set up visit to talk about publicizing this success story. Talk about how this business stimulates the economy, what opportunities it will bring and how it will provide educational opportunities. Put on next meeting's agenda
- Possible joint meeting with supervisors next month.

PAGE COUNTY ED DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Projects and Initiatives – Broadband, Small Scale Manufacturing (Virginia Main Street) online marketplace ecommerce site.
- AFID (VA Department of Ag) Planning Grant of \$20,000 – Economic Development Department will fund \$2,000.00, asking the EDA to fund \$4,000.00 and the state will fund \$12,000.00.
Motion to fund \$4,000.00 to AFID Grant provided that this board can receive regular updates, that we can have a half way point where this is a substantial part of a meeting where we are giving attention to it and provided that we can have a final meeting towards the end of this project where we discuss the findings and take it on and engage with it. With those stipulations being met, I move that we allocate this funding to support the program: Alex White, seconded Jay Dedman Ayes (5) Nays (0)
- Recap Food Hub – Funded \$51,768.91 to local markets and restaurants for 12 weeks during the food hub program. Shenandoah funded \$26,100.00 and the county funded \$42,829.00. \$124,000.00 was invested into the small business economy with the food hub in coordination with Page One, five people were hired to assist, 5,675 masks were made locally for distribution.
- Small Business Assistance Relief Program – to date, checks written total about \$25,000.00 and helped 15 businesses so far. There is about \$450,000.00 left in the program.
- Internet Grant - \$1.7 million, 6 tower projects, will need to go through the Special Use Permit Process through Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors
- Internet Assistance – Funded 8 mobile hotspots, provided internet assistance to comcast users and provided hotspots to over 230 households.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn 7:00

Liz Lewis, Economic Development Coordinator