

Development Authority of Butts County  
Monthly Board Meeting  
Minutes

The Development Authority of Butts County held its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, March 11, 2022. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Historic Butts County Courthouse at 25 Second Street, Jackson, GA 30233.

**Development Authority Members present and comprising a quorum were:**

| Members       | PRESENT | ABSENT | Members           | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|---------------|---------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| Zach Burden   |         | X      | Roger McDaniel    | X       |        |
| Clint Crowe   |         | X      | Alicia Washington | X       |        |
| John Harkness | X       |        | Arthur White      | X       |        |
| Fred Head     | X       |        |                   |         |        |

**Guests:** Mr. Jim Lovett, Georgia Power Company

**I. Welcome and Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Harkness called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum of the Board Members was in attendance. On a motion Mr. Head, seconded by Ms. Washington, the Agenda was unanimously approved.

**II. Approval of the Minutes:**

a) **February 11, 2022 Minutes:** On a motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. McDaniel, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes of the February 11, 2022 meeting as submitted.

**III. Board Items for Discussion and Action:**

a) **Financial Reports – February 2022:** On a motion by Mr. McDaniel, seconded by Mr. Arthur White, the Board voted unanimously to approve the February 2022 Financial Statements as presented.

**IV. Old Business**

b) **Final Revisions to Tax Savings Schedule:** Executive Director Bob White provided Board members with an updated Tax Savings Schedule that contained minor revisions since the previous discussion in December. On a motion by Ms. Washington, seconded by Mr. Head, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised schedule, and authorized Mr. White to share the document with the Butts County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Assessors.

c) **Butts County-Spalding County Joint Development Authority Update:** Executive Director White reported that discussions were continuing between the Butts County Attorney and the Spalding County Attorney regarding the revised Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).

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V. **New Business**

- a) **FY 2023 County Budget Schedule:** Mr. White advised the Board that the Board of Commissioners' FY2023 Budget Calendar was scheduled to be released later in the day. Mr. White noted that since the Development Authority's FY2023 Budget request would not be formalized until after the Authority's Work Plan session to follow the regular Authority meeting, the County CFO will allow the Development Authority to submit our budget proposal after the April Authority meeting.
- b) **GIS Planning Contract Renewal:** Executive Director White advised the Board that the annual contract with GIS Planning would be expiring soon, and that he had received a renewal invoice from GIS Planning for the annual subscription to their Zoom Prospector Enterprise features on the Authority website, and that the annual subscription rate for the web services would remain at \$5,000. Following discussion and upon a motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. McDaniel, the Board authorized the renewal of the annual contract.
- c) **Georgia Tech LOCI Fiscal Impact Tool:** Executive Director White presented information on the LOCI Fiscal Impact evaluation tool that had originally been created by Georgia Tech, but was now owned by the Economic Impact Group. The LOCI tool is used by numerous economic development authorities and local governments to assess the fiscal impact of proposed projects, and Mr. White encouraged the Board to add this tool to evaluate the fiscal impacts of proposed economic development projects in recommending economic incentives. The annual subscription for the service, based on the county's size, would be \$500 per year, with an additional \$500 to prepare and input the county data profile, with an additional \$250 to add School System data. On a motion by Mr. McDaniel, seconded by Mr. Arthur White, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the annual LOCI subscription, and the County and School System data profile for a total cost of \$1,250.
- d) **I-75 Central Corridor Coalition:** The Development Authority of Butts County has been a dues-paying member of the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition since its inception several years earlier. The principal function of the group has been to support transportation and quality growth issues along the I-75 corridor between Henry County and Macon, and Executive Director Bob White has participated in monthly meetings of the group. The Butts County Board of Commissioners and the City of Jackson are also dues-paying member; and although there had been discussions about identifying an economic development role for the group, the Development Authority of Butts County was the only dues-paying member of the group. A 2021 survey of development authorities along the corridor had revealed little interest in expanding the role of the group to formally include an economic development mission; and, as a result, Mr. White recommended that the Development Authority not renew its membership in the Coalition as the only dues-paying development authority. Upon a motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Harkness, the Board voted unanimously to not renew formal membership in the group.

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VII. **Staff Reports and Information:** Bob White and Melissa Griffin provided an update on staff activities since the past meeting.

VIII. **Executive Session for Real Estate Matters:** On a motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. McDaniel, the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter. Following the discussion and upon a motion by Mr. McDaniel, seconded by Ms. Washington, the Board voted unanimously to exit Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Arthur White, seconded by Mr. Head, the Chairman was authorized to proceed on the matters as discussed in Executive Session.

IX. **Adjournment:** On a motion by Ms. Washington seconded by Mr. McDaniel, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting, and to begin the schedule Planning Session to be facilitated by Mr. Jim Lovett of Georgia Power Company.

**The minutes were officially approved by the Board on April 8, 2022**

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Executive Director

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Chairman