

**Loudon County Economic Development Agency/
Joint Economic and Community Development
Executive Committee Meeting
Lenoir City Utilities Board
September 12th, 2019**

The following members were present: Mayor Buddy Bradshaw, Charlie Bettis, Mayor Jeff Harris, and Mayor Tony Aikens

Also present were: BOD Members Eddie Simpson, Harold Duff, John Evans, and Bob Elliott, Chamber President Rodney Grugin, News Herald reporter Natalie McQuilkin, and LCEDA staff members Jack Qualls and Blair Patterson

Chairman Buddy Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from the June 13th, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting

The minutes were emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for their review. **Charlie Bettis made a motion to approve the June 13th, 2019 minutes, seconded by Jeff Harris. All approved.**

Open Position on Board of Directors

Charlie Bettis stated he would be resigning from his position on the Loudon County Economic Development Agency Board. He is thankful for his many years serving and very proud of the progress Loudon County has made. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors thanked Charlie for being an asset and positively contributing to the EDA for so many years. Charlie Bettis suggested that the Executive Committee consider replacing his seat with Greenbelt Property owner, John Harrison.

Tony Aikens made a motion to recommend John Harrison fill the vacant position on the Loudon County Economic Development Agency Board of Directors, seconded by Jeff Harris. Motion approved.

Car Lease

Jack Qualls explained that the EDA is currently holding a car lease through Loudon Utility Board's vehicle lease program. The 2018 lease amount was \$1,200, but changes have been made due to vehicle availability. The 2019 lease amount is not confirmed, however the lease trade in for a truck would be \$7,900. Jack stated he is waiting to decide on the best option and wanted to bring this issue to the board's attention for future financial purposes.

LCEDA rent to LCUB

Jack Qualls stated that the EDA has yet to receive a lease contract from LCUB with a monthly rent amount. Once this agreement is received and approved, the EDA budget lines will need to be altered. Jack also mentioned that the EDA no longer has a satellite office in Loudon but will continue to use their meeting spaces as needed.

Grant Funds/Administrative Fees

Jack Qualls stated the EDA is currently acting as the project manager on TDOT projects within the City of Loudon and Loudon County. Jack is concerned about the time these projects take from other economic development issues, as well as the issue of not having a contract with the municipalities for the EDA to conduct each project. The administration and paperwork for new and existing PILOTs were also discussed. Jack mentioned the process of charging administrative fees for TDOT projects and PILOTs. He also mentioned writing up a Memorandum of Understanding for TDOT projects between municipalities and the LCEDA. **Tony Aikens made a motion to move the discussion of this issue to the full board, seconded by Jeff Harris. All approved.**

Additional Business

- Jack Qualls stated that the EDA had been awarded Three-Star Grant funding. An overview of the grant will be brought to the board at their next meeting.

With no further business, **Tony Aikens make a motion to adjourn seconded by Jeff Harris, all approved.**

Blair Patterson, Recording Secretary