

**Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County Development Authority**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 11, 2023**

**Present**

Ron Paulk, Chairman  
Jason Dunn  
Steve Taylor  
Mark Turner  
Jason Holt

**Absent**

Jason Floyd

**Other**

Kyle Cook  
Christina Justice  
Kathy A. Young

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Chairman Ron Paulk called the January 11, 2023 meeting to order at 12:24 pm.

Minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Steve Taylor made a motion to approve. Mark Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Christina Justice presented the financials for December 31, 2022. Jason Holt made a motion to approve. Steve Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive director, Jason Dunn gave the following report:

- GRAD site
  - We have to get a few of the support letters received modified and then resubmitted.
- Peachtree Business Park
  - Delayed grant submission until April 1.
  - Budget 1.62 million, Grant \$500k want to explore and move forward a portion being funded by borrowing \$500k to \$600k.
- 808 E. Oconee Street
  - Needs concrete repair, priced locally \$36,746. Kathy Young would like to check on price for public works to do concrete work.

A motion was made to approve up to that amount. Jason Holt made a motion to approve. Steve Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Workforce Development/College & career Academy
  - In collaboration with Wiregrass, a grant has been submitted to the EDA for the development of a CDL training center still waiting to hear back about the grant.
- Polar Beverages
  - Truck staging area bidding will be sent out soon.
- Co-op/Innovation Kitchen
  - City will begin demolition soon.
  - Contract with contractor \$486,000, site work budgeted separate.

A motion was made to approve moving forward with construction. Jason Holt made a motion to approve. Mark Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- 402 South Grant
  - Bureau Veritas.
    - Lease is in place with a January 9, start date.
- Sirco Industrial

- o Due diligence is complete.
  - o Purchase agreement will be sent out this week, it will include a buy-back option should Sirco be unable to obtain all permits needed.
- UGA Propel Program
  - o Selected to participate, provides training for community members.
  - o Goal is to build a core team and a larger team of 20 to build a strategic plan on 3 to 4 economic development initiatives.
  - o Process starts on January 25 & 26.
  - o Should you have some recommendations on who you would like to represent city and county, please send them to me.

Other:

Looking forward to 2023. Hal Wiley's last meeting was in December.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Justice