

**Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County Development Authority**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 8, 2021**

**Present**

Ron Palk, Chairman  
Jason Dunn  
Steve Taylor  
Mark Turner  
Hal Wiley

**Absent**

Jim Pucket

**Other**

Kyle Cook  
Christina Justice  
Mike Dinnerman  
Jessica Griner  
Melissa Dark  
Cam Jordan  
Greg Clay, Georgia Public Web  
Jason Holt

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Chairman Ron Paulk called the December 8, 2021 meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Chairman Ron Paulk welcomed guests Jason Holt, Mayor-Elect of Fitzgerald, and Greg Clay of Georgia Public Web.

Minutes from the November 2021 meeting were reviewed. Steve Taylor made a motion to approve. Hal Wiley seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Christina Justice presented the financials for November 2021. Hal Wiley made a motion to approve. Mark Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive director, Jason Dunn gave the following report:

Lippert appears highly favorable to purchasing land from the Development Authority and looking to begin construction on their expansion in 2023.

MANA is on the cusp of a \$35 million expansion effort. \$10 million in equipment has been purchased and construction and installation will begin in January. This expansion will result in a second peanut roaster and jar line created to address domestic hunger issues.

Modern Dispersions plans to begin the construction of a second building in 2022. Jason Dunn is working with Marton Kozma and their attorney on an incentive plan.

Polar Beverage is still working through the details for the EIP grant. They've been granted a 30 day extension.

Blockstream Expansion, the Fitzgerald Utilities Data project, has potential to have a substantial impact on SPLOST. Blockstream is currently hiring and looking to add 25 people for temporary light work.

The Grant was submitted for the Co-Op/Innovation Kitchen on November 5th. FBHCDA will provide \$50k matching funds if awarded and accepted.

Melissa Dark, President of the Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Chamber of Commerce, gave a brief update.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Dark