

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

Present

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

Absent

Jim Puckett

Other

Kyle Cook
Christina Justice
Mike Dinnerman
Jeff Lewis

Chairman Ron Paulk called the September 8, 2021 meeting to order at 12:14 pm.

Minutes from the August 11, 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 August 2021. Steve Taylor made a motion to approve. Mark Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive director, Jason Dunn gave the following report:

- Workforce Development- The Chamber, Development Authority, and College and Career Academy will kickoff the FLEX program October 4th accepting applications and begin first week in November.
 - A quick overview of the Career Guide where students right out of high school can go online and click on the different industries sector to see what is available.
- Legislators- The Development Authority met with Senator Warnock's field representatives on September 7, 2021.
 - Topics of discussion
 - FLEX
 - Infrastructure
 - COVID/hospital
 - Federal Funds that have come into the community

Infrastructure Updates:

Dunn reported that the EIP Grant for the truck staging area that will support Polar's expansion efforts has been submitted.

The ARPA grant that the development authority is collaborating with Fitzgerald Utilities on has had the deadline extended from August 31, 2021 until October 31, 2021.

New Projects:

The board was given a brief description of a co-op kitchen project that Dunn is doing the due diligence on.

Other:

Dunn gave the board an update on a Rezoning/Annexation request that if passed would see 30 acres of land rezoned to allow a mobile home park. The park would be in very close proximity to Modern Dispersions. Jason has spoken to Marton Kozma and Kozma is very concerned about this matter. Jason expects to speak in opposition of the rezoning at the Planning and Zoning meetings as well as the city council meeting October 11.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Justice