

The Carroll County Industrial Development Authority met February 2, 2016, at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Members present: Vice-Chairman Clinton Willie, Roger Wilson, Benny Robinson, Richard Sowers, and Andy Jackson.

Also, Nikki Cannon, Interim County Administrator and IDA Executive Director; Sandy West, Treasurer; Crystal Adams; Mava Vass.

Call to Order

Mr. Clinton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Election of IDA Leadership

Ms. Cannon told that there was not a meeting held in January and she has discussed with legal counsel to see if we can postpone elections until the two vacancies are filled and was told that Mr. Cornwell advised that it would not be a problem.

Mr. Robinson told that he does not have a problem with it.

Upon motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Jackson and passing, the IDA approved to postpone the Election of IDA Leadership until the two vacancies are filled.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0

Ratifying Resolution

Ms. Cannon told that based on the recommendation of legal counsel, we need to adopt a resolution ratifying all previous actions of the IDA.

Mr. Robinson told that he is a newcomer and he has not been exposed to prior actions. He told that Mr. Hicks was Chairman for 2 years and asked what time frame this covers.

Ms. Cannon told that it is all encompassing and it is to protect the existing board under an appropriately elected board.

Mr. Robinson told that he doesn't have a problem with it, he just wanted to understand.

Mr. Clinton told that Mr. Cornwell has been good at advising us.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Jackson and passing, the IDA approved the Resolution ratifying all previous action made by the IDA.

Aye:5 Nay: 0

Carter Pines Signs

Ms. Mava Vass asked what was decided at the last meeting.

Ms. Cannon told that it was tabled at the last meeting.

Ms. Vass told that everyone is familiar with the walking trail and the labyrinth and they were talking about putting up signs to say what the labyrinth is.

Ms. Cannon told that the intention is to put up signs and also signage along the trail and asked what the recommendation of the board was.

Mr. Robinson replied, to go forward with it.

Mr. Willie told that it was tabled because of Ms. Vass' surprise party.

Ms. Vass told that a sign company from Cana came up and met about them.

Ms. Cannon asked if quotes were obtained.

Ms. West told that no numbers were mentioned.

Ms. Vass told that whatever you can do to help would be appreciated.

Ms. Cannon asked how many signs we are looking at.

Mr. Wilson told that it would be 8 or 9.

Mr. Robinson asked what they would be made of.

Ms. Vass told that the funeral home has one that was done recently and that is what they are looking at.

Mr. Willie told that we can contact Ricky to see about getting a cost.

Mr. Robinson told that wood would not be permanent and that cast signs look nice.

Ms. Cannon told that the next meeting is March 1st and we can approve the cost and layout then.

Ms. Vass told that she would work with someone on the wording and decide how many signs we need.

Mr. Robinson told that if we want something permanent we need to do granite or cast and granite might be cheaper.

Ms. Vass told that Doug Porter in Mt. Airy did the previous ones.

Mr. Sowers told that he is no longer in business.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Sowers and passing, the IDA approved the minutes from December 8, 2015 and December 23, 2015.

Aye: 5 Nay:0

Closed Session

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA entered into Closed Session, for disposition of property, prospective business discussion and discussion of Legal Matters in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A3, A5, A7) of the Code of Virginia.

Aye:5 Nay:0

Certification of Closed Session

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved to return to regular session and adopted the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the IDA has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-37111 (A3, A5, A7) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Authority.

Aye:5 Nay:0

Treasurer's Report

Ms. West presented the Treasurer's Report and went over all items on the report.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved the Treasurer's Report.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0

Claims Report

Ms. West presented and discussed each individual claim.

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved to pay the monthly claims as presented.

Aye:5 Nay:0

Update on Banking

Ms. West told that as of yesterday all the checks that have cleared the bank have been reimbursed and there have not been any new checks. She told that it was primarily in December and it appears that they have ran their course. She told that all funds have been returned to the account. She told that she has been talking with Ms. Cannon about banking and makes the recommendation to move from Wells Fargo. She told that the only branch is in Galax which makes it inconvenient but that all correspondence that she has to do goes through the Local branch in San Diego and that makes it extremely difficult to work with.

Ms. Cannon told that when she started calling about the bank fraud the first call was at 11:00 am and she did not get to speak to a person until 3:00 pm.

Mr. Robinson told that he can attest to what you are saying.

Ms. Cannon told that she could talk to the people in Galax but they were not able to help.

Ms. West told that she has contacted the Bank of Floyd and she would suggest that we go with them. She told that they can facilitate all the transactions. She told that she can't recommend Carter Bank because they don't do online banking.

Mr. Robinson told that he has an account with Grayson National and Wells Fargo and Grayson is a little behind on the online banking.

Ms. West told that there are no fees you just have to keep a minimum balance and the online banking is free. She told that she thinks the telephone transfers are \$5.00. She asked for authorization to start the process as well as adding Ms. Cannon to the account.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved for Ms. West to proceed with changing banks for the IDA as well as adding Ms. Cannon to the account.

Aye: 5 Nay:0

Bus Titles and Transfers

Ms. Cannon told that we have received the titles back for the buses and we need to transfer those to the School.

Upon motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Jackson and passing, the IDA approved to transfer the titles to the buses to the Carroll County Public School Division.

Aye: 5 Nay:0

Ms. Cannon told that she met with USDA today to close and it is a requirement of the USDA to certify a document regarding the buses.

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved to certify the document.

Aye:5 Nay:0

Ms. Cannon told that she would like to pursue a grant. She told that the County budgeted for a fire truck for Laurel Fork and she has been approached by USDA they no longer provide sole grants but they do a matching grant. She told that she is asking for permission to seek out a grant with the USDA and to enter into the process.

Upon motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA approved for Ms. Cannon to seek out a grant with USDA for a fire truck and permission to enter into the process.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0

Other Business

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Sowers and passing, the IDA approved to purchase a plaque for recognition for Barry Hicks.

Aye:5 Nay: 0

Mr. Robinson told that the paper had talked about a study to keep the Training Center open and he wrote a letter to the Board commending their actions. He told that he has been previously involved in activities to keep it open and he is very passionate about it. He told that it will be closed in 2018 unless something is done. He told that he sent the letter as a citizen and we need to do more than a study. He told that Virginia has data and that is not going to change, this is a political thing. He offered to do anything if he can, but hiring a consulting firm is not going to get results. He told that the center serves 17 counties and now is the time to call on other counties to get on board with us.

Ms. Cannon told that she applauds his efforts. She told that we have put in a FOIA request to the center to obtain some information but we never received a response.

Mr. Robinson told that he has seen these people and if they are put into a private setting they will be dumped at nursing homes and hospitals during the holidays and they are already overloaded. He told that he went to two meetings in Wytheville and their minds have been made up, but the numbers are flawed.

Ms. Cannon told that she is not sure that it is political, it has been court ordered.

Mr. Robinson told that the DOJ said they were inadequately cared for and they entered into an agreement for folks to go into private settings but he is afraid they will be abused.

Ms. Cannon told that she likes the idea of a steering committee. She told that the goal would be to prevent the closing, but how.

Mr. Robinson told that is a good question. He told that we have to get the political leaders on board.

Ms. Cannon told that our political leaders have already introduced a bill.

Mr. Robinson told that the ultimate action would be to have the Governor reverse the order.

Ms. West asked if there is any way to privatize it.

Mr. Robinson told that avenue should be explored.

Ms. West told that we need to bring people together that feel passionate about it.

Ms. Cannon told that there is still a funding stream in place for the patients. She told that we just need to find people that are interested.

Mr. Wilson told that it sounds like a worthwhile project.

Mr. Robinson told that it will be if we can make a difference.

Ms. Cannon told that we might be able to pull in Va. Tech to do some research on what is happening in other states.

Mr. Willie told that it would be free help.

Ms. Cannon told that we will continue to work with Mr. Robinson.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passing, the IDA adjourned.

Aye: 5

Nay:0