

The Carroll County Economic Development Authority held an emergency meeting on Monday, April 12, 2021 at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Members present: Chairman Larry Edwards, Vice Chairman Richard Sowers, Ronnie Collins, Mandi McCraw, Marty Hall, Martin Slate, Kay Carter

Executive Director: Donald Bryant

Others: Steve Durbin, Sandy West

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Edwards called the meeting to order.

Mr. Collins led in invocation and pledge.

EMERGENCY MEETING BRIEFING

Chairman Edwards states that the reason for the emergency meeting is to obtain approval for the refund of the taxable assets related to Virginia Produce. This would involve the Board of Supervisors reimbursing the EDA.

Ms. McCraw asks if we are skipping over Citizen's Time.

Chairman Edwards states that Citizen's Time is being delayed and asks if there is a motion for the reimbursement.

Mr. Sowers makes the motion, and the chairman asks for the resolution to be read:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Carroll County Economic Development Authority has confirmed that the final TROF Loan payment for Project #3299 was made by VA Produce Company in January 2021; and

Whereas, the Tobacco commission has confirmed that the company fully met their performance obligations, job and wage obligations and capital investment obligations; and

Whereas, the last remaining item is the grant based on taxable assets in the amount of \$43,895.60;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that on April 12, 2021, the Carroll County Economic Development Authority requests from the Board Of Supervisors, reimbursement in the amount of \$43,895.60 to the CC EDA.

Mr. Collins seconds the motion.

Ayes: All Ayes

The motion is passed.

The chairman states that at the last meeting the board had a motion to lease a parcel of land to VA produce company.

Mr. Bryant stated that VPC was not receptive to the price set by the EDA. The EDA had set a price of \$1000, Mr. Bryant echoed a counter of \$200 from VPC.

Mr. Collins asked if we had a holistic understanding of how the lessee stood to financially benefit from the parcel (confirmed that they have been mowing, planting Sudan grass, etc.)

Chairman Edwards clarified that the land had been tended to, also stated that only 6 to 8 acres of the 20 on the tax parcel would be used. Stated the need for creation of a 1-year lease at 200 dollars for the 6 acres, otherwise it will stand as is.

No motion is made.

CITIZEN'S TIME

Chairman asks if we have citizen's present. No citizens speak; however Ms. McCraw does have a statement.

Ms. McCraw states that after the last meeting, we could benefit from a clearer standard of communication.

Ms. McCraw is concerned that the notification procedure used was improper, careful attention should be used to ensure that all board members are given ample notice of emergency meetings and that state codes are followed.

Ms. McCraw is concerned that middle of the day meetings are harder for citizens to attend.

Ms. McCraw is concerned that items being discussed on the open session agenda had previously been discussed in closed session.

Ms. McCraw reads the model of excellence which is signed by board members, promoting integrity and transparency.

Ms. McCraw reviews Robert's Rules of Order regarding conduct and tact.

Chairman Edwards acknowledges the above statements, and makes a comment outlining the difference between facts and opinions.

Chairman Edwards explains that the meeting had to be done today, in order to satisfy outstanding agreements, prior to the meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. McCraw rebuts that the board should have been notified sooner.

Chairman Edwards mentions that he had been in the process of notifying board members when he was contacted by Ms. McCraw.

Chairman Edwards mentions that each board member does not always have to be present, only enough to reach a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McCraw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collins to adjourn. The motion carried with all members signifying aye.