

Minutes of the Development Authority of Crawford County held Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Development Authority of Crawford County, Conference Room; 1011 Hwy 341 North, Roberta, Georgia.

MEMBERS Present:

Arthur Bentley
Charles "Hill" Bentley
Brenda Carroll
Josh Lewis
Charles Westberry
Jay Andrews (Ex-Officio)
Paul Chapman (Ex-Officio)

MEMBERS Absent:

Martha McAfee

Guests Present:

Greg Boike (MGRC)
Ronald Bonds (Bradbury Logistics)
Walter Cotton (The Cotton Exchange)
Chris Kersey (Bradbury Logistics)
Wendell Kersey (Bradbury Logistics)
Fred Rouse
Kristi Watkins (GA POST)

Others Present:

Fabian Hollis
Dovie McNary
Lesley McNary

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Chairman, Josh Lewis.

Invocation: Given by Paul Chapman

Standard Order of Business:

Chairman Lewis called for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Charles "Hill" Bentley, seconded Charles Westberry and passed unanimously.

Chairman Lewis called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 14, 2020 as well as Executive Session minutes of the same date. Charles "Hill" Bentley made the motion, Arthur Bentley seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

New Business:

Walter Cotton (The Cotton Exchange) briefed board members on a creative employment opportunity that may exist here in Crawford County. Cotton co-authored the legislation related to revitalization and re-employment strategies in rural areas and is now working locally with entrepreneurs to capture contracts and give entrepreneurs in Crawford County a social contracting advantage. Cotton has been working with local Crawford County resident, Fred Rouse to roll out a training program that would utilize these systems to capture federal contracts. These contracts will be made available by the federal government in the next couple of months and Cotton would like to share his knowledge of the process with local entrepreneurs in hopes of creating a program for individuals who have been disenfranchised so that they can compete and deliver products to their customer. Cotton offers his "Business in the Box" at a cost of 500.00 per person and currently is working on behalf of Fred Rouse towards a federal award.

Eric McMillan- U.S. Arms/McMillan Defense did not appear.

Wendell Kersey (Bradbury Logistics) updated board members as to the failure of Bradbury Logistics to open and operate or provide employment in Crawford County per signed contract. Kersey said factors including the weather have halted production. The inability of Bradbury Logistics to secure contracts has led to Bradbury Logistics failing to meet the obligations of the RLF (Revolving Loan Fund) which they received \$300,000 from. Kersey says there are currently four houses under construction in the area but at the present time they do not have enough work to keep employees busy on a permanent basis. According, to Kersey, Howard Harper is in Las Vegas working on a contract with an Indian reservation to produce housing with the hope of signing a contract to produce product on a large scale basis which would allow Bradbury to meet the employment guidelines per the RLF. The board has twice extended the payment and the job requirements to accommodate Bradbury to no avail. The last extension postponed payments and employment requirements until 12/1/2019. That date came and passed with no payments received, jobs created, or documents submitted as requested. Multiple requests for specific documents related to the project have been requested but Bradbury has failed to furnish documents requested. Howard Harper continues to provide a quarterly letter to the DACC after being made aware that the update letter does not fulfill document requirements as stated.

Tax Payments- Lesley McNary briefed the board on the tax payments that the authority was responsible for paying that stems from closing of two properties the authority has purchased. (1) 254 Wright Ave. and (2) 575 Industrial Park Rd. The following checks were issued: Crawford County Tax Commissioner 3808.27, The City of Roberta 1058.33 and Dennis Baucom 369.18

Change in meeting time- there was discussion from the board in regard to changing the meeting time to an earlier time but after discussion no motions were called for and no changes to the meeting time were made.

Executive Session- Lewis called for a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel. Charles Westberry made the motion, Hill Bentley seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

At 9:06 p.m. the board returned to open session and the following motions were called for by Lewis, made by Brenda Carroll and seconded by Charles "Hill" Bentley (1) motion to allow Bradbury until April 2, 2020 to submit all documents as required to service the RLF (2) motion to allow Bradbury Logistics an additional 90 days from today to bring all past due amounts current, at the time of this meeting the past due balance is \$18352.00 on the RLF and Flint Energies bills total \$2169.00 (3) motion to send a letter to the Commissioners outlining the actions taken tonight.

Announcements- the next scheduled Development Authority Training is scheduled for May 12, 2020 in Griffin, Martha McAfee is registered for the class. Grass cutting bids are due Friday March 13, 2020 and will be opened at the Development Authority's April meeting.

Adjournment- At 9:19 p.m. with no additional business to discuss Chairman Lewis called for a motion to adjourn, Charles "Hill" Bentley made the motion, Arthur Bentley seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned.