

Development Authority of Crawford County  
**August 3, 2023, Minutes**  
Board Meeting @ 6pm  
Development Authority of Crawford County, Conference Room  
1011 GA Hwy341 N.  
Roberta, GA 31078

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Diane Griffin  
Broadus Williams  
Thomas Collins  
Adriane Romeo  
Dennis Kelly  
Darlene Roberts  
Tisa Horton  
Crystal Golden

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jay Andrews  
Dale Jump  
Richard Murphy

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jackie McCowen  
Daniel Wilder  
Joy Thomas-Hunt  
Aerial Moore

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Thomas Collins called the Development Authority of Crawford County meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:**

Given by Broadus Williams

**Order of Business:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, requested an amendment to the agenda. She asked that the agenda items Budget and Personnel to be tabled until September. Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to amend the agenda. Broadus Williams motioned to amend the agenda by tabling the Budget and Personnel until the September meeting. Seconded by Dennis Kelly, the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to approve the agenda. Adriene Romeo made the motion. Seconded by Dennis Kelly, the vote was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 6, 2023. Broadus Williams made the motion. Seconded by Dennis Kelly, and the vote unanimous.

Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to approve Executive Session meeting minutes from July 6, 2023. Dennis Kelly made the motion. Seconded by Adriene Romeo, the vote was unanimous.

**Welcome:**

**Old Business:**

**Joint Development Retreat Update**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, reported that the Joint Development Retreat is on hold until further notice. Mr. Toomey is researching an economic report on Crawford County that is from years ago. Once the report is located, he will schedule the retreat.

**Business Center**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, reported that the air conditioner Unit replacement for HeadStart is completed.

Business Center has two new potential tenants. Richard Miller, Miller Electric, requested the roll up door room and the adjacent classroom. Mr. Miller is ready to lease the area that consists of 2,408.07 square feet of office/operating space. Doug Stroup, Make It Clear Studio, has accepted the last counteroffer. Attorney Daniel Wilder is reviewing both lease agreements.

**GICH- Georgia Initiative for Community Housing**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, announced the letter of intent, application, and the support letters from the Crawford County Board of Commissioners, Olin, Atlanta Sand, and Representative Dickey have submitted for the GICH program.

CCDA Community Housing team will be taking a tour to Madison, Georgia on August 7, 2023. The bus will leave CCDA parking lot at 8 AM to arrive at 10am for the meeting and tour.

The community housing team will be holding multiple workshops and a community clean up soon.

**New Business:**

**USDA RBDG- Rural Business Development Grant Program**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, announced that the USDA RBDG Grant was awarded to the VSU Rural Development participant counties (Crawford, Twiggs, Worth, Seminole, Mitchell, Feagin, Dawson, and Lanier). The state has reduced the USDA award amount from \$110,000 to \$90,500 and the new reduction to \$81,500. We will need to contribute an additional \$1,000 towards the grant.

The grant is to provide tools, education, and guidance to communities seeking economic growth also help each community identify their potential and provide the resources to achieve it. Chairman Thomas Collins asked for a motion to contribute an additional \$1,000 towards the grant bringing Crawford

County Development Authority contribution to \$2,500. Diane Griffin made a motion to give the additional \$1,000. Seconded by Broadus Williams, the vote was unanimous.

### **SEO Audit Overview**

Tisa Horton, Executive Director, shared with the Board the outcome of our website audit from M&M Marketing.

- Broken links on the website
- Stronger keywords needed
- More content needed

Suggestions made by the auditors were to give this information to Middle GA Regional Commission as they oversee our website. Another option to repair those issues is to create a new website through M&M Marketing. They will work with Middle GA Regional Commission to help explain how to make the improvements, if needed.

### **ACT Work Ready Communities Training**

Crawford County will have the opportunity of being a designated county as an ACT Work Ready Community. Middle Georgia Economic Alliance (MGEC) is hosting the Boot Camp training, this is an initiative as a region. Tisa Horton, Executive Director, and Sharon Sanders, County Manager, will be attending the training August 14-15, 2023, in Macon.

### **Budget**

Tabled until September.

### **Financials**

#### **Executive Session**

Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to exit open session and enter executive session for real estate and legal. Adriane Romeo made the motion to exit the regular session to enter executive session allowing County Commissioner Jackie McCown and Attorney Daniel Wilder, to stay and participate in the executive session. Seconded by Dennis Kelly, the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to come out of executive session and return to open session. Darlene Roberts made the motion. Seconded by Broadus Williams, the vote was unanimous. There was no action taken.

### **Announcements:**

#### **Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Thomas Collins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adriane Romeo made the motion. Seconded by Dennis Kelly, the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.