

***Hardee County Economic Development Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2009***

Attendees: Rick Justice – Chairman, John Barlow-Vice Chairman, Jama Abbott, Lavon Cobb, Keith Davis, Lory Durrance, Jim See, Joe Albritton, Marcus Shackelford, Rick Knight, Mike Manley, John O'Neal, Bill Lambert, Ken Evers, Sarah Pelham

Absent: Paul Samuels, Dana English, Nancy Craft

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rick Justice at 9:00 am.

Minutes: A motion was made by Marcus Shackelford and was seconded by John Barlow to approve the July 14, 2009 minutes. Motion approved.

Agenda: The agenda was approved as is.

Director's Report

FHREDI Presentation:

Lynn Topel the director of FHREDI came before the board to give an update on the progress of FHREDI. She said that in October FHREDI will be holding a meeting to refocus their efforts. FHREDI is currently looking for funding for this FY.

FHREDI has been involved in disaster training in several counties including Hardee. Bridge Loan training has taken place as well. Currently FHREDI is working on a grant application for broadband.

The board discussed funding possibilities for FHREDI. A motion was made by Marcus Shackelford and seconded by John Barlow to approve \$10,000.00 in funding to be split \$2,500.00 for Florida's Fresh Water Frontier, FHREDI dues plus \$5,000.00 toward FHREDI. Motion approved, with Lori Durrance and John Barlow apposed.

Project Update:

Bill Lambert gave a project update. The grant application has been filed for the broadband project and the response time is about 45 days. NHIL is still moving forward, contracts are back in their hands for final approval. Bill is still working with Top Green energy and will have more of an update at the next board meeting.

Resignation: Dana English: Dana English has submitted his resignation from the EDC Board. A motion was made by John Barlow and seconded by Marcus Shackelford to accept resignation. Motion approved.

Marketing Report

Loop Net Report: The board reviewed the attached Loop net report in the packet.

Website Update: The marketing committee met with Doug Battey to discuss the website. It will be the job of the committee to provide him with material to be uploaded. He will teach in house staff how to make changes in the future. He has also agreed to redesign the EDC logo. The marketing committee will be meeting again soon to assemble material to give to Doug.

Finance Report

Finance Report:

A motion was made by John Barlow and seconded by Rick Knight to accept the Financial Report. Motion approved.

There was no other business to come before the board. A motion was made by John Barlow and seconded by Mike Manley to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned.