

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA  
October 5, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heath Schondelmayer, Selvin Hollingsworth, Charles Ray Sheffield, Dallis Copeland, Laura Gower

ALSO PRESENT: Jerald Mitchell, Joe Sanders, Conner Miller, Austin Gibson, Heather Chason, Tracey Herring, Deborah Kidder, Christy Bozeman, Tyson Begly, Tom Horn, Ben Moser, Jennifer Bickerstaff

The meeting was called to order by Heath Schondelmayer.

I. WELCOME

- A. September 7, 2023 Minutes - **Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Charles Ray Sheffield, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the September 7, 2023 meeting attached as "Exhibit A."**

II. FINANCES

- A. September Financial Update – Joe Sanders commented on several line items to include revenue and expenses, Blue Cross Blue Shield credit line and the Atmos property. He also stated that the auditor presentation would be next month. **Upon motion by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Charles Ray Sheffield the Authority unanimously approved the September 2023 Financial Reports attached as "Exhibit B."**

III. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

- A. Jerald Mitchell presents Economic Development snapshot. He reported the following:
- Jerald recapped strategic and pipeline goals. He also commented on challenges with competitive infrastructure, the availability of property assets, and current target industries including battery storage and production, electric vehicle suppliers, aerospace, and advanced manufacturing.
  - Jerald reported on recent economic development activity including conducting two site visits, project sectors, and development statuses of parcels 5, 9 and 11.
  - Jerald discussed Chamber branding initiatives to amplify messaging around economic development through recent work with local media and announcements in GA Trend and Site Selection magazine. He commented on the significance of Georgia being named the #1 state to do business for the tenth year in a row by Site Selection magazine. He mentioned hiring marketing coordinator Epiphany Jackson.
  - Conner Miller provided a workforce development snapshot including the success of hosting the Local Opportunities for Today and Tomorrow (LOTT) expo, and the upcoming PIE kickoff event called Trailblazers for Tomorrow. Jerald elaborated on the success of LOTT and its impacts on helping to combat workforce struggles.
  - Jerald Mitchell provided a Small Business snapshot including the successful conclusion of the Small Business Summer Series. Jerald commented on the status of the ARP program including reviewing final applications and disbursing remaining funds.
  - Jerald reported on Government affairs regarding the upcoming tax credit study group in November in Columbus. He elaborated on the importance of engagement to defend tax programs that affect small businesses and economic development.

IV. CSU - CYBERSECURITY REPORT

- A. Deborah Kidder provided an overview of the cybersecurity program at CSU. She discussed the history of the program and its success due to TSYS' involvement. highlighted the educational pathways available and internship opportunities. She fielded questions about financial aid, the waiting list, and enrollment periods.

V. CHAMBER REPORT

- A. Jerald Mitchell discussed recent news including hosting Governor Kemp and Lt Governor Jones, the GA Joint Defense Commission, and Governor's Workforce Initiative.
- B. Jerald reported on executed and upcoming sponsorships including the RushSouth Music Festival and Pratt & Whitney groundbreaking. He briefly mentioned the upcoming Women in Business event, 5 Under 40 reception, and Health and Wellness summit.
- C. Selvin Hollingsworth commented on the importance of the upcoming police chief convention in January. Discussion over formatting and methods of support.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing significant to report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Heath discussed CHIPS coalition and their work in economic development. Ben Moser briefly discussed CHIPs activities and efforts.

VIII. LEGAL ISSUES

- A. Austin Gibson reported on the Revised Inducement Resolution and Project Agreement for Pratt & Whitney. **Upon motion by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Laura Gower, the Authority unanimously approved the Revised Inducement Resolution and Project Agreement for Pratt & Whitney.**
- B. Austin Gibson reported on the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City regarding SPLOST funds for continued maintenance of Muscogee Technology Park. **Upon motion by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Charles Ray Sheffield, the Authority unanimously approved the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding SPLOST funds.**
- C. Charles Ray Sheffield recused himself for Austin Gibson to report on the Estoppel Certificate for Lakeside Village and stated that certifying documents are still in effect. **Upon motion by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Laura Gower, the Authority unanimously approved the Approval of Estoppel Certificate for Lakeside Village.**

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive session called.

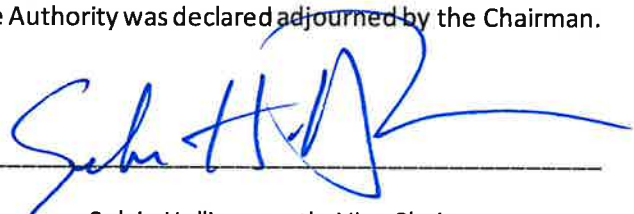
X. MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business the Authority was declared adjourned by the Chairman.



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Heath Schondelmayer, Chairman



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Selvin Hollingsworth, Vice Chair