

BOARD PLANNING RETREAT



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF JONES COUNTY

FACILITATION PROVIDED ON BEHALF OF



Tri-County
EMC

AUGUST 4
2020

On Tuesday,
August 4, 2020,

board members and staff from the
Development Authority of Jones
County met in the Jones County
High School Community Room
in Gray, Georgia, for a planning
retreat. Georgia EMC Community
Development Consultant Araina
Reaves facilitated on behalf of
Tri-County EMC.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

After a brief welcome and introduction of the facilitator, the meeting opened with a presentation by Georgia EMC Project Manager David Denison on the current economic development climate and how a community might continue to be competitive amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Following a brief Q&A session, the facilitator asked the participants to consider their responses to the two main topics of the meeting:

1. EXPECTATIONS OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HALEY WATSON
2. FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET

EXPECTATIONS

- Continue normal functions as well as possible
- Continue GRAD process
- Continue the process of awareness with project managers in Atlanta
- Continue communication with community leadership
- Continue with the development of marketing materials
- Continue virtual presence with the board and project managers
- Make sure everyone knows we are still open for business
- Need substantial touches with project managers
- Haley to create job description from these expectations and "normal" ones
- Look into virtual sponsorship with GEDA meetings
- Begin work on promotional video to share. Highlight workforce, career academy, etc.
- Contact County/City to make sure everything can be accessed online - permits, info, etc.



THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WERE IN ATTENDANCE:

- Haley Watson, Executive Director
- Francis Adams, Board
- John Albrycht, Board
- Alan Childs, Board
- Greg Mullis, Board
- Mickey Parker (phone), Board
- Laura Rackley, Board
- Kevin Brown, Attorney

BUDGET DISCUSSION

- \$15,200 extra will be added to new budget
- Consider separate capital/project fund
- Need 14 wetlands credits. Approximately \$12k-\$14k each
 - Approx. \$163K in savings/emergency fund
 - Ask commissioners for funds for credits
 - Joint Dev. Authority may contribute toward credits
 - County may have some unused wetlands credits available
 - Old SPLOST money may be reallocated for economic development purposes
- Owe \$11,500 to GEC
- Should continue to receive \$30k annually from commissioners
- Legal fees: \$5k/\$6k in normal budget. The rest can go in capital account
- Add 10% on top of credits, legal, etc. to contingency for Corps
- Move part of consulting funds to cover marketing materials
- Haley will update budget and called meeting will be held

NOTES AND IDEAS

- Proceed with GRAD certification without rail. Will re-file when rail is completed
- Flyover video should be done by the end of August
- Social media push
- Send any related pictures to Haley
- Send gift cards or shaker and small bottle to project managers to join in a virtual "cocktail hour"
- Consult with Georgia EMC's Shaun Dodson for virtual story board
- Community book to virtual magazine to go out with story board
- Creative Space (magazines, etc.) is about \$600/year