

January 26, 2006

The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat held a regular meeting on Thursday, January 26, 2006, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Wytheville Municipal Building located at 150 East Monroe Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman	William F. Snyder, Vice Chairman
George T. Johnstone, Treasurer	David L. Elmore
Danny B. Gordon	David N. Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gerald L. Brewer

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator
Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager
C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Freeman called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present. Mr. Gordon offered the invocation, and Mr. Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' TIME

Mr. Freeman asked if there were any persons present who wished to address the board during citizens' time. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER - DR. DAVID JOHNSON

Mr. Freeman welcomed Dr. David Johnson to the Joint IDA board. Dr. Johnson stated that he was looking forward to serving on the board.

PRESS RELEASE - AMCOR PET PACKAGING

Dr. Hawthorne shared the following press release from Governor Mark Warner:

GOVERNOR WARNER ANNOUNCES 144 NEW JOBS FOR WYTHE COUNTY

- Is one of six announcements made today totaling 834 new jobs for Virginia -

RICHMOND - Governor Mark R. Warner today made six job announcements today totaling 834 new jobs across Virginia. Amcor PET Packaging, a leading manufacturer of PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic packaging for the global beverage, food and non-food industries, will effect a \$105 million investment to develop a manufacturing operation in Wythe County's Progress Park, creating 144 new jobs. The company will supply hot fillable plastic bottles to the beverage industry. Virginia successfully competed against North Carolina for the project.

"This announcement is a testament to success generating more success," said Governor Warner. "I announced in June a major new beverage producer in Wythe County. Now Amcor, a packaging supplier for the beverage industry, will follow suit and create 144 additional new jobs for the area. Amcor is a major company with global stature and I am proud to welcome them to Southwest Virginia."

Amcor PET Packaging is the leading manufacturer of PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic packaging for the global beverage, food and non-food industries, with more than 80 manufacturing sites located in 20 countries. Its parent company, Amcor Limited, offers a broad range of packaging solutions and ranks as one of the top three packaging companies in the world. Amcor's extensive operations include 240 plants in 39 countries. It is headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, employs over 27,000 people and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, had sales revenues of US\$8.5 billion.

"Amcor PET Packaging is pleased to be opening this state-of-the-art facility in Wytheville," said Frank Pellicori, Vice President and General Manager for Amcor PET Packaging's North American Beverage Division. "We appreciate the fine cooperation and assistance provided by state and local authorities. We believe that Virginia's strong business climate, excellent infrastructure and well-educated workforce will be instrumental in making this endeavor successful."

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat and Virginia's aCorridor to secure the project for Virginia. Governor Warner approved a \$400,000 grant from the Governor's Opportunity Fund to assist with the project. The Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission approved \$300,000 in Tobacco Region Opportunity Funds for the project. The company qualifies for rail access funding from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and industrial road access funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation. Infrastructure improvements will be made with the aid of a Community Development Block Grant, administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The Virginia Department of Business Assistance will also support the project with training assistance through its Workforce Services Jobs Investment Program.

"Wythe County is proud to partner with such a global leader as Amcor and looks forward to the company's Progress Park facility becoming one of its most productive plants," said Wythe B. Sharitz, Chairman of the Wythe County Board of Supervisors. "Amcor's location decision further validates the reputation of Progress Park as a Super Site."

###

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - DECEMBER 21, 2006, BOARD MEETING

Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to approve the minutes a presented. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Dr. Snyder asked about check #4811. Dr. Hawthorne explained that this was for the CRIFA audit. Mr. Gordon asked about check #4819, and Ms. Pack explained that this was to reimburse to the Town of Wytheville for ordering a tax guide for the Joint IDA. Dr. Hawthorne added that the tax guide is useful, and that by ordering it through the Town of Wytheville, the Joint IDA received a discount. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to pay the invoices as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Joint IDA of Wythe County Check Register

For the Period From Dec 22, 2005 to Jan 26, 2006

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Check Number.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount
1038	1/26/06	Hodges & Campbell	165.00
4799	12/29/05	Town of Wytheville	150.00
4800	1/20/06	Chamber of Commerce	340.00
4801	1/25/06	Appalachian Power	128.31
4802	1/25/06	Alan Hawthorne - Reimbursement	120.15
4803	1/25/06	Angela D. Pack	24.03
4804	1/25/06	Anthem Southeast Dental	67.90
4805	1/25/06	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,151.50
4806	1/25/06	Chamber of Commerce	160.00
4807	1/25/06	Companion Life Insurance Co	75.14
4808	1/25/06	Fort Dearborn Life Ins Co	22.65
4809	1/25/06	Mike Webb-Reimbursement	12.91
4810	1/25/06	Postmaster	72.00
4811	1/25/06	Robinson, Farmer, Cox Assoc.	2,334.50
4812	1/25/06	Sprint PCS	180.89
4813	1/25/06	Sprint	126.97
4814	1/25/06	Sprint	6.42
4815	1/25/06	VA Economic Dev Assoc.	300.00
4816	1/25/06	Bankcard Services	409.80
4817	1/25/06	Wytheville Office Supply	29.09
4818	1/25/06	Xerox	366.48
4819	1/26/06	Town of Wytheville	26.75
4820	1/26/06	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
4821	1/26/06	Angela D. Pack	24.00
4821V	1/26/06	Angela D. Pack	-24.00
4822	1/26/06	Alan R. Hawthorne	3,615.52
4823	1/26/06	Angela D. Pack	1,692.92

4824	1/26/06	Michael B. Webb	2,050.37
4825	1/26/06	First Bank of Virginia	2,792.04
4826	1/26/06	VA Dept Of Taxation	463.21
Total			17,984.55

OLD BUSINESS

IMPAIRED REVOLVING LOAN FUND UPDATE

Dr. Hawthorne explained that the debtor agreed to a judgement. After recalculating their tax liabilities, the debtor should receive a tax refund. Dr. Hawthorne anticipates being able to receive payment to the Revolving Loan Fund within the next few months.

JOB FAIR UPDATE

Dr. Hawthorne displayed the job fair website for the board. He explained which companies and organizations are participating and the plan for awarding door prizes. Dr. Snyder thanked Mr. Gordon for his willingness to promote the job fair on the radio.

FAIRVIEW PROPERTY SALE STATUS

Mr. Webb informed the board that a buy/sell contract had been signed.

FAIRVIEW ZONING REQUEST STATUS

Mr. Webb explained that the Wytheville Planning Commission voted to hold a public hearing on February 9, 2006, to consider the request to rezone the Fairview rear lots. Mr. Webb informed the board that R.H. Sheppard Company expressed concern about the rezoning. Mr. Webb related how he reminded the company that the Joint IDA sent letters a year ago to all the park’s landowners about the Authority’s intentions to one day seek this change. He explained that Dr. Hawthorne asked the company to send written comments to the Planning Commission as part of the public process. Mr. Webb also informed the board about the possible rezoning of the M1 district around Fairview Industrial Park to the new M1-M. He will introduce the idea to the Planning Commission on February 9, 2006, but this will be for information purposes and not as an official request.

FAIRVIEW ENTRANCE SIGN IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Webb shared pictures of the Fairview Industrial Park entrance sign. The company listings need updated and the sign could use some touch-up painting. The board discussed the need to redesign the contact information section to make it more visible. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to proceed with sign improvements and to await final improvement plans on the contact part of the sign. The motion passed unanimously.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UPDATE

Mr. Webb shared a letter from Habitat for Humanity President Duane Van Antwerp. The letter thanked the board for allowing Habitat for Humanity use of the Fairview House and requested permission to cut down dead trees on the property. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to allow Habitat for Humanity to remove the trees at their expense. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION FOR ROBERT AYERS

Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board that they received a draft resolution of appreciation for former board member Robert Ayers. Mr. Johnstone made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to adopt the resolution. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the resolution follows:

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat wishes to express its appreciation to Robert J. Ayers for service to the Authority and citizens of Wythe County; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ayers served continuously on the Joint Industrial Development Authority from January 12, 1999, to December 31, 2005; during which time he supported the efforts of Wythe County to develop Progress Park; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ayers was always supportive to the Authority's Executive Director, Associate Director, and Administrative Assistant and committed to the efforts of the board of directors; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ayers chaired the Joint IDA Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament Committee in 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ayers worked diligently and cooperatively with local officials and governing bodies to identify and recruit industries beneficial to Wythe County citizens:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Industrial Development Authority directors, through this resolution, express their esteem, respect, and gratitude to Robert J. Ayers for his outstanding contributions to the Board and extend to him best wishes for success, health, and happiness.

Adopted this 26th day of January, 2006.

/s/ Joseph W. Freeman
Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Angela D. Pack
Angela D. Pack, Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT RESIGNATION

Dr. Hawthorne stated that Ms. Pack would be leaving the Joint IDA, and several board members attended a farewell lunch in her honor earlier that day. Dr. Hawthorne explained that, after consulting Mr. Freeman, the job opening has been advertised and listed with the Virginia Employment Commission. He projected the Joint IDA website for the board to see the online job opening announcement. Dr. Hawthorne explained that it would probably be necessary for the board to recess today's meeting until February 9, 2006, in order to address hiring a new administrative assistant after interviewing candidates. Ms. Pack thanked the board for the opportunity to have worked for the Joint IDA.

WYTHE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN INPUT

Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board that they received staff's draft input for the Wythe County Planning Commission's Capital Improvement Plan in the board package. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Dr. Snyder, to send the comments to the Wythe County Planning Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

2006 END-OF-YEAR REPORT

Mr. Webb shared a slide show that summarized the Joint IDA's activities for 2005. He explained that major accomplishments were the announcements of Gatorade and Amcor PET Packaging, expansions at Klöckner Pentaplast of America, Longwood, and the Mount Rogers IDC, successful grant applications, and workforce development initiatives.

2006 INDUSTRY APPRECIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT (MAY 18, 2006)

Mr. Webb stated that Business Appreciation Week is the week of May 15, and the Joint IDA can do a golf tournament on Thursday, May 18, 2006. Mr. Freeman asked Dr. Snyder to chair the golf tournament committee, and he instructed Mr. Webb to ask Mr. Bob Ayers if he would serve on the committee.

PROJECT UPDATES (CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY VIRGINIA CODE §2.2-3711(A)(5))

There were no project updates.

OTHER

Mr. Elmore inquired if the Town of Wytheville will replace him while he is in China. Dr. Hawthorne replied that the Town of Wytheville had not made a decision.

Dr. Hawthorne informed the board that the Virginia Economic Developers Association awarded Mr. Webb a scholarship to attend the International Economic Development Council class on credit analysis on February 20-22, 2006, in Baltimore. USDA Rural Development agreed to let the Joint IDA use the Revolving Loan Fund to pay the remainder of the cost.

Dr. Hawthorne reminded the board that the Joint IDA applied for a Virginia's Opportunities Region grant for website improvements. Concurrent with submitting a grant application, staff had an opportunity to interview Laura Teed. She is an environmental science major at the University of Virginia and wants to pursue a graduate degree in urban planning. Ms. Teed could work on website improvement design as part of a summer internship with the Joint IDA. Dr. Hawthorne asked the board to approve making an internship offer to Ms. Teed. Dr. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnstone, to offer Ms. Teed a summer internship. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Hawthorne recommended that the board reconvene until February 9, 2006, in order to discuss personnel matter pertaining to the hiring of an administrative assistant and budget matters. The consensus of the board was to reconvene on February 9, 2006.

Dr. Hawthorne asked the board to consider allowing a reception in honor of Angie Pack, former board member Robert Ayers, and new board member Dr. David Johnson following the reconvened meeting on February 9, 2006. The consensus of the board was to have the reception.

At Dr. Snyder's request, the board discussed the potential use of Workforce Investment Act funds for economic development projects and incumbent workers.

RECESS

With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Freeman recessed the meeting until 3:00 p.m, Thursday, February 9, 2006, in the Joint IDA conference room located at 190 South First Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

RECONVENE

Mr. Freeman reconvened the meeting at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, February 9, 2006, in the Joint IDA conference room located at 190 South First Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman
Gerald Brewer
David N. Johnson

William F. Snyder, Vice Chairman
Danny B. Gordon

MEMBERS ABSENT

George T. Johnstone, Treasurer
David L. Elmore

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator
Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager
C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Freeman determined a quorum to be present.

CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY CODE OF VIRGINIA §2.2-3711(A)(1) TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS RELATING TO THE HIRING OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND STAFF COMPENSATION

Dr. Johnson made a motion to enter into closed session as permitted by Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Code of Virginia to discuss personnel matters relating to the hiring of an administrative assistant and staff compensation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brewer and passed unanimously. Dr. Johnson made motion, and Dr. Snyder seconded, to reconvene in open session. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Johnson moved that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Motion was seconded by Mr. Brewer and passed.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certificate by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certificate resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville and Rural Retreat.

Motion was passed with the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Joe Freeman	William Snyder
	Gerald Brewer	Danny Gordon
	David Johnson	

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING:	David Elmore
	George Johnstone

ABSENT DURING VOTE:	David Elmore
	George Johnstone

HIRING OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Dr. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gordon, that the Executive Director make an offer of employment as administrative assistant to the candidate recommended in closed session. The motion passed unanimously.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET REQUEST FOR FY 2006-2007

Dr. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gordon, to adopt the proposed budget with the element discussed in closed session and to send it to the appropriate agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Hawthorne highlighted items on the agenda for the board's information. Dr. Snyder asked why insurance went up in the budget, and Dr. Hawthorne stated that it can be contributed to the public officials' liability insurance for CRIFA. Mr. Gordon asked if the Joint IDA would manage the new micro-loan program that Congressman Boucher announced, and Dr. Hawthorne answered that the Mount Rogers PDC will manage that fund. Along that note, Dr. Hawthorne stated that the Joint IDA is sending letters to the local banks reminding them that the Joint IDA has the Revolving Loan Fund.

OTHER

Mr. Freeman asked if staff would attend Congressman Boucher's meeting on broadband at Wytheville Community College on February 13, 2006. Dr. Hawthorne stated he did not receive information about it, and Mr. Freeman offered to bring information to Dr. Hawthorne.

Mr. Brewer offered background on Sprint's decision to spin off its local phone service company.

Dr. Hawthorne stated that the Joint IDA is in a billing and contract dispute with Sprint PCS concerning internet usage and the cost of switching phone numbers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Chairman Freeman adjourned the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman

ATTEST:

Michael B. Webb, Acting Secretary