

November 15, 2007

The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the Council Room of the Rural Retreat Town Office located at Main Street, Rural Retreat, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe Freeman, Chairman  
Linda DiYorio  
Danny Gordon  
Dale Yontz

William F. Snyder, Vice Chairman  
David L. Elmore  
Tom W. Jones

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Raymond E. Matney, Rural Retreat Town Manager

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT**

R. Cellell Dalton, Wythe County Administrator  
C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Wytheville Town Manager

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Chairman Freeman called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present. Mr. Gordon offered the invocation, and Mr. Freeman 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 meeting.

**PRESENTATION -Raymond Matney, Town of Rural Retreat**

Mr. Matney gave an update on the Rural Retreat Water Authority. He stated they are taking a

very proactive approach on the infrastructure of their water, not only in quality but also in quantity.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES -October 25, 2007, board meeting**

Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adopt the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES**

Mr. Webb informed the board that check #5422 was the quarterly payment to Mount Rogers Development Partnership (Virginia's aCorridor). He also commented on #5419 and #5428 to the Wytheville Meeting Center. He stated that these were paid separately as one was for a prospect meeting and the other was for a Wythe Manufacturing Council meeting and would be reimbursed by Longwood Elastomers, who hosted the meeting. Ms. Skeens commented that due to the meeting being early, some of the utilities invoices had not arrived. She suggested the board approve payment of them as they arrive. Mr. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Ms. DiYorio to approve the invoices and outstanding regular invoices. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Joint IDA of Wythe County**

**Check Register**

For the Period From October 26, 2007 through November 20, 2007

<b>Check #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>
5414	11/20/07	Alan R. Hawthorne	4,239.30
5415	11/20/07	Danielle M. Skeens	1,826.96
5416	11/20/07	Michael B. Webb	2,187.01
5417	11/20/07	Appalachian Power	75.53
5418	11/20/07	Postmaster	41.00
5419	11/20/07	Wytheville Meeting Center	50.00
5420	11/20/07	Xerox	356.32
5421	11/20/07	Robert G. Moore	1,100.00
5422	11/20/07	The Mount Rogers Dev Partnersh	6,899.75
5423	11/20/07	First Bank of Virginia	3,038.71
5424	11/20/07	Principal Life Insurance Co.	105.86
5425	11/20/07	VA Dept Of Taxation	492.02
5426	11/20/07	Anthem Southeast Dental	99.22
5427	11/20/07	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	1,807.14
5428	11/20/07	Wytheville Meeting Center	50.00

**Total**

**22,368.82**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **CHAMBER DINNER FINAL PLANS**

Mr. Webb asked the board members to confirm who needed tickets for the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Dinner. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Jones stated they needed a ticket. Mr. Elmore informed the board that he originally stated he needed a ticket, but due to prior commitments on that date, he will not be able to attend. Ms. DiYorio suggested inviting Mr. Bucky Sharitz and his wife to attend with the Joint IDA as he is very supportive and active in economic development. Ms. Skeens stated she would extend the invitation to them.

### **INDUSTRY TENURE AWARDS CEREMONY ON JANUARY 24, 2008**

Mr. Webb informed the board that the Wytheville Meeting Center had been reserved for January 24, 2008. He stated that Dr. Hawthorne is in the process of devising an agenda for the event which would be presented at the December meeting for approval. He stated that Dr. Hawthorne is trying to find a guest speaker for the event. Mr. Gordon asked if Mr. Tom Elliott was being considered and Ms. Skeens remarked that his name had been mentioned.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMENTS**

Chairman Freeman asked if anyone had any comments on the strategic plan. He stated that Dr. Hawthorne distributed the plan to numerous persons of interest and hoped to get some useful feedback. Mr. Freeman encouraged board members to direct feedback to the Joint IDA staff and informed the board that the plan would be voted on at the December meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **EXISTING INDUSTRY UPDATE**

Mr. Webb updated the board on interactions with existing industries. He commented that some companies are feeling a slowdown and others are not. Workforce development is the key issue to many companies. Mr. Webb recapped how the Joint IDA facilitated meetings between Appalachian Power and local industries about power reliability. Mr. Gordon commented on the higher paying jobs that are in Wythe County and the workforce development. Mr. Webb shared information on the recent Wythe Manufacturing Council meeting about Six Sigma and lean manufacturing.

## **FALL 2007 JOINT IDA NEWSLETTER**

Mr. Webb presented the board with a draft newsletter. He stated the photo on the second page was a place holder and would be replaced with a new photo after the Chamber Dinner Awards on November 19. Mr. Gordon recommended sending the newsletters to all of the Chamber of Commerce members.

## **DRAFT 2008 CALENDAR**

Mr. Webb discussed the draft 2008 calendar. Mr. Gordon made a motion to adopt the calendar. Ms. DiYorio seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Webb presented the first quarter financial report to the board members. Mr. Gordon made a motion and Dr. Snyder seconded, to accept the report as presented. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

## **PROJECTS UPDATE**

Mr. Webb updated the board members concerning ongoing projects.

## **OTHER**

Ms. Skeens presented the press release announcing the special recognition award to Longwood Elastomers, Inc. She stated the release date is scheduled for November 20, 2007. Mr. Gordon commented that the word “among” should be corrected to “along.” Chairman Freeman agreed.

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Longwood Elastomers Receives Joint IDA Special Recognition Award**

WYTHEVILLE—The Joint Industrial Development Authority presented its Special Recognition Award to Longwood Elastomers, Inc., at the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce’s annual membership dinner held at the Wytheville Meeting Center on November 19, 2007. Longwood Elastomers has long been an anchor of the manufacturing community in Wytheville and Wythe County. The company is annually one of the top, if not the top, manufacturing employers in Wythe County and is a strong community supporter. The company supports activities of the United Way, Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce, Chautauqua Festival, and Wythe Manufacturing Council among with many other educational and cultural events.

The Wytheville plant has been one of the most effective organizations in the area in implementing the practices of lean manufacturing and has consistently increased

productivity for many years. The culture of strong employee involvement and problem solving has made its local plant a top performer within the company and led to being a strong global player in its markets. Longwood Industries, Longwood Elastomers' parent company, is headquartered in Greensboro, NC. The company operates three plants in the United States and Europe producing a range of products and technology to serve the automotive, food processing, industrial, oilfield, plumbing, electrical, consumer, and pump markets. Products include airbrake diaphragms, seals, bladders, couplings, custom molded products, and extruded products. The Wytheville plant began operations in 1974 as Aeroquip.

A New Industry Recognition Award was also presented to Lane Enterprises, Inc., which is Progress Park's newest tenet. Operations will begin during the fourth quarter of 2007. The Joint IDA will present its Industry Tenure Awards (in five year intervals) for Wythe County industries at a luncheon on January 24, 2008, at the Wytheville Meeting Center.

###

Mr. Gordon asked if anyone from Lane Enterprises would be attending the Chamber dinner to receive the New Industry Award. Mr. Webb stated that he had inquired with the Chamber but had not received confirmation yet.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no other business, Mr. Freeman adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

---

Joseph W. Freeman, Chairman

Attest:

---

Danielle M. Skeens, Secretary