

Nelson County Economic Development Authority

October 12, 2017

Present: Natt Hall, John Bruguere, Carlton Ballowe, Alphonso Taylor, Greg Kelly

Chairperson John Bruguere called the meeting to order.

There was no public comment.

Motion: To approve the July 6, 2017 meeting minutes. Ballowe-Hall (5-0)

The deed in lieu of foreclosure for the Callohill property was reviewed and accepted.

The recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Strategic Marketing Analysis for Nelson County were discussed and will be forwarded to the County Administrator:

In priority order – included in FY18 budget and department work plan:

#1 Identify and collect parcel data for all commercial and industrial sites county-wide

#2 Create a separate Nelson County Economic Development website (to include #1 info)

#3 Continue to recruit suppliers and vendors to existing businesses (sectors include lodging, recreation, entertainment, arts, craft beverage, artisanal foods, specialty crops)

#4 Work with regional efforts to support Go VA economic development plans and efforts

Not included in FY18 budget, and will require additional funding and staff support:

- Expand broadband county wide
- Expand water/sewer capacity to allow for development
- Find a Makerspace to support entrepreneurs
- Acquire and make site-ready for industrial recruitment the Larkin property or other properties identified in #1 above
- Focus on making the county seat of Lovingston an economic center of commerce
- Work with the regional economic development partnership and the Piedmont Workforce Network to analyze Nelson workforce
- Create a Tourism Zone along the Route 29 corridor for business recruitment and infill development

Residents of Montebello have requested that the EDA replace the welcome sign on Route 56. Maureen Kelley has requested a design and quote for a sign.

Superintendent Jeff Comer will be invited to the December EDA meeting to discuss the schools and workforce development opportunities.

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

