

**Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation  
February 15, 2018 – Board Meeting – 2:00pm  
Palmetto Electric Cooperative, Community Room**

**Meeting Minutes**

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Present: Murray, Alsko, Bennett, Sulka, Wills, O'Toole  
Absent: Fobes, Gough  
Guests: Danny Black, John Fleming, Joe Croley, Ashley Feaster, Eric Summerville, Mary Lee Carns, Greg Alexander, Bill McGill

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Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 2:05pm

Willis moved to accept the meeting minutes from January; Sulka seconded; approved (4-0)

Chairman Murray shared that he and O'Toole presented preliminary budget numbers to the County's Governmental Committee this week and at the County Council retreat last week; O'Toole mentioned that there seems to be interest at the County level to fund an incentive pool outside of the BCEDC's operating budget; O'Toole is going to follow up to the municipalities to ensure they are able to cover the projected contribution increase of \$15,000 for FY19 (up from \$10,000 in FY18).

O'Toole reviewed and provided comments on the FY18/19 budget highlighting an increase in marketing and travel expenses; enhancing business retention and expansion efforts; and reviewing future sponsorship opportunities with the RBC Heritage

Mary Lee Carns, Vice President, Institutional Advancement and External Relations for TCL, presented an update on the Culinary Arts and Job Training Center

Danny Black asked that the SCA update be provided in executive session as it pertains to confidential projects; John Fleming shared with the Board that the SCA and O'Toole presented jointly at the County Council retreat

Chairman Murray deferred discussion on board expansion until the next meeting due to time constraints; no objections from the Board

Chairman Murray reviewed the Board's plan for a strategic planning retreat; scheduling conflicts are preventing the finalizing of a date for a half-day planning session; the Board asked for additional March dates to consider; O'Toole will identify additional dates and share with the Board in order to find an agreeable date

O'Toole reviewed his Executive Director report; Le Creuset has leased space at the Eleanor Fine building in Beaufort; he is working on some leads with the vacant land at Myrtle Park in Bluffton; looking at marketing opportunities at the airports

Chairman Murray handed out draft confidentiality and non-disclosure that the Board will be required to review and sign; he asked for feedback before implementation

O'Toole asked the Board to review the BCEDC's mission and vision and to come up with an "elevator pitch" of what the BCEDC means to the Board and the County as we mature as mature as an organization

Chairman Murray stated that the next meeting will be Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 2:00pm at Palmetto Electric.

Chairman Murray opened the meeting to public comments; none received

Chairman Murray entertained a motion to enter executive session to review confidential projects; Willis moved; Alsko seconded; approved 5-0; the Board entered executive session at 2:47pm

The Board exited executive session at 3:45pm with no action taken

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.