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**Meeting Minutes**

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Present: Feaster, Alsko, Dallas, Fobes, Gough, Mantua, Murray, Sommerville, Sulka, Willis, Patrick  
Absent: Panu, Rodriguez  
Staff: O’Toole, Stone  
Guests: John Fleming, Joe Fragale, Mike Levine, Katy Perrin, Kurt Taylor, Hannah Horne, York  
Glover, John Fleming

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Chair Feaster called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

Chair Feaster entertained a motion to enter executive session to review the confidential projects; Fobes moved; Mantua seconded; approved unanimously; the Board entered executive session at 2:03 pm.

Chair Feaster entertained a motion to exit executive sessions; Dallas moved; Murray seconded; The Board exited executive session at 2:29 pm. No motions or votes were taken in executive session. Public session followed.

Chair Feaster entertained a motion to approve August 20<sup>th</sup> minutes; Murray moved; Willis seconded; approved unanimously.

O’Toole and Fobes presented Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation’s site fund accounting and cash flow sheet.

Stone introduced Katy Perrin, owner of Perrin Woodworking. Katy Perrin presented on economic development project in Port Royal. Perrin Woodworking will redevelop the old 809 Paris Avenue facility that they recently closed on. They are currently working their plans through the Town of Port Royal’s planning department. The property will feature a display area up front where visitors can view woodworking, as well as feature community events/workshops.

The BCEDC’s cumulative totals are \$169.42 million in capital investment, 602 newly created jobs, 174 retained jobs, and over \$10 million in outside grant funding/incentives for Beaufort County companies. Currently the BCEDC has 193 leads, 26 of which are ‘A’ prospects – with the top contributor of leads being ‘direct’ leads.

BCEDC provided update on activity. O’Toole will be presenting to the Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce and will be featured on panel with Geismar North America. The BCEDC was unsuccessful in securing CTC funds for the paving of roads at the Beaufort Commerce Park. The BCEDC is currently working to orchestrate a job fair for Lowcountry Fresh Market in early December. The event will be hosted in partnership with TCL, USCB, Bluffton Self Help, and the local military installments. Lowcountry Fresh Market will look to hire for around 35 positions. The BCEDC will be participating in a Connecticut trade mission from October 22-October 29. The BCEDC recently was contacted by an existing Beaufort County company that was on the cusp of picking up a large contract but did not have existing capacity at their facility. The BCEDC was able to connect them with another Beaufort County company that will potentially partner with them. This connection will keep business in the County and will look to spur more investment and jobs. The BCEDC hosted the first virtual roundtable on September 15th and had Congressman Joe Cunningham as the presenter at the roundtable. Future BCEDC roundtables will target having Senator Tom Davis as well as Senator Tim Scott as presenters.

O'Toole and Fobes provided 2020-2021 budget update.

Fleming provided SCA update. SCA had the 'ATC announcement.' The agribusiness project will cost \$314 million and is expected to be fully operational by 2022. It will employ over 1,500 people and generate \$7.4 billion over the next 15 years. The project has an average wage of over \$40,000/year. SCA expects the announcement to spur more developments – potential headquarter type projects that will be looking in the area. SCA is also working on closing out SCDOC grants, due diligence, site enhancement grants, palmetto sites. SCA currently has a marketing trip set up for November.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm.