



April 2, 2024
GIDA Board Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

BILL DAWSON
DAREN PIETSCH
GREER ANDERSON

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

CHRISTY JORDAN
RICHARD NIXON

OTHERS PRESENT

RYAN MOORE, STAFF
JOAN HEARN, STAFF
MCKENZIE PADGETT, STAFF
SHERRI PRUITT, STAFF
REES SUMERFORD, COUNSEL
WALTER RAFALSKI, GLYNN COUNTY
ROB BURR, GCAC
DIALO CARTRIGHT, GEORGIA POWER
PETE SNELL, COASTAL PINES
MATHEW HILL, DDA
GRACIE JORDAN, DDA
PAM SHIERLING, ISLANDER NEWS

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson gave an invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACCEPT AGENDA

A MOTION was made by Greer Anderson, seconded by Daren Pietsch, and passed unanimously to accept the agenda as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

WELCOME & RECOGNIZE GUESTS

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson welcomed guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson invited public comments.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

No items to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Investment Policy Statement

Daren Pietsch request item differed to next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch to approve the March 5th, 2024, Minutes as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

A MOTION was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch to approve the March 22rd, 2024, Called Minutes as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

FINANCIALS

Approve February Financials

Joan Hearn reviewed the financials with the board and reported nothing out of the ordinary.

A MOTION was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch and to approve the February financials as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

UPDATES

PRESIDENT'S INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Southeast Georgia Alliance (SEGA) Joint Development Authority Update

Ryan Moore reported that the Southeast Georgia Alliance is comprised of a six-county regional alliance with real estate that includes rail service from both CSX and Norfolk Southern. Jan Melcher is the Executive Director for SEGA. SEGA has a new brand image along with a stronger social media presence. There will be a SEGA mixer this week with board members and a county commissioner invited from each county to help each community recognize the benefit of the regional partnership. More to come.

NEW BUSINESS ATTRACTION

Project Update

McKenzie Padgett reported that the Authority has had a busy month with four new projects with one virtual and one in person yesterday. Rail serve site makes Glynn County more attractive along with build to suites being a big demand from prospects. More to come.

Area Development Workshop

McKenzie Padgett reported on the Area Development workshop she attended in Kentucky with a lot of opportunities to network with site selectors and other Economic Development Authority's around the country. One big takeaway is a lot of projects are taking a little longer to decide based on the upcoming election and current interest rates.

Project Manager Update

McKenzie Padgett reported that the annual update in Atlanta was a St. Patrick's Day themed this year with a great turnout. Ryan Moore reiterated that having nearly 30 people at the event is a clear sign that people are interested in our community thanks to McKenzie Padgett's effort for making it happen.

PM 101 Update

McKenzie Padgett reported that she will be attending the PM 101 for an opportunity to network with some of the Project Managers in Atlanta. More to come.

SEDC Meet the Consultants

McKenzie Padgett reported that the annual SEDC Meet the Consultants will be held at Sea Palms this month with a focus on Southeast Georgia region. More to come.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

VIA Conference Partnership

McKenzie Padgett reported on the successful VIA Conference partnership held annually with a great opportunity for professional growth and for speakers to tell their stories.

Acceler8 Panel / Pitch Night

Sherri Pruitt was a panelist on the Acceler8 alongside Mathew Hill and Chelsea Hill with the DDA, Lance Sabbe City Commissioner/Forward Brunswick, Jennifer Lee with SBDC. The following week was Pitch Night with all entrepreneurs from Acceler8 in attendance. Sherri Pruitt reported it was well-attended and a great opportunity for GIDA to be a part of.

EXISTING INDUSTRIES

Jered Groundbreaking

Sherri Pruitt reported on the Jered Groundbreaking with a great turnout from the community and Ryan Moore reaffirmed that it has been a long time coming and glad to see it come to fruition. The project will put approximately 45 million into the McBride Industrial Park with 100,000sf building and will employ another 50 people in our community.

Jered Bond Update

Ryan Moore reported that the bond update was finalized a week prior to the groundbreaking and the project has been 6–8-year process with everything coming together in a weeks' time. They will vacate the building at Liberty Harbor in the next year.

King and Prince 100 Year Anniversary

Ryan Moore reported that the King and Prince 100 Year Anniversary put on a great presentation to celebrate their 100 years in our community. Sherri Pruitt reported on the employees that gave their testimony who had been there for nearly 50 years with generations working there which speaks volumes of their family focused business.

Manufacturing Roundtable Kick Off Event

Sherri Pruitt reported that GIDA will be hosting the first Manufacturing Roundtable event here April 30th with all manufacturing and industries invited. It will be an opportunity for each company to give a snapshot of what they do and to connect with other manufacturers. More to come.

Share the Future Update

- **Paramount Printing**

Sherri Pruitt reported that the video with paramount printing to showcase the equipment they purchased with the Share the Future grant and how it benefited them. It will be posted on our social media in the next week or so. More to come.

- **Flavor of Georgia Finalist – Golden Isles Gourmet Popcorn**

Sherri Pruitt reported that Lori Peacock with Golden Isles Gourmet Popcorn, one of GIDA Share the Future recipients, is a finalist for the UGA Flavor of Georgia Food Product contest. The flavor featured will be Sea Turtle Pecan Caramel. More to come.

WORKFORCE

Port Industry Tour/Career Ready Certification

Sherri Pruitt reported on the Port Industry tour with the GICCA group. The tour is a great opportunity for young adults not interested in attending college and looking at other career opportunities once they graduate. They got to see how the port operates and the enthusiasm was apparent with all the questions about how to apply once graduating from school.

Christ Flight Student Presentation

Ryan Moore reported that Christ Flight is actively operating at the Golden Isles Airport with students interested in aviation in attendance. Most are there for aviation mechanics but plan to do something else aviation related.

MARKETING

Unsung Hero

McKenzie Padgett reported on the Unsung Hero's campaign that just wrapped up. The campaign focuses on heroes in our community who rarely get recognized but do so much and it was a chance to highlight them and all they do.

McKenzie Padgett reported that social media has continued to increase with the Authority's reach up from 1,000 to 2,800 for the month of March. Most of the traffic is going to the sites on the webpage. Facebook and Instagram are doing very well similarly.

GCAC

Brunswick Golden Isles Airport Emergency Response Exercise, March 21, 2024

Rob Burr reported on the Brunswick airport emergency response exercise. Every year they have a tabletop exercise plan and every three years they have an exercise plan. The plan is extremely important to help new county and city employees stay up to date as well.

Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, May 4, 2024

Rob Burr reminded everyone that the Honor Flight is just around the corner. The Coastal Georgia Honor Flight puts together a group of veterans to fly to Washington DC. The group starts at Golden Isles Airport and returns the same evening with a reception from the high school band and the community welcoming them back.

IMPORTANT DATES

- GIDA Board Meeting – Tuesday, May 7th, 2024, at 9am at 209 Gloucester Street, Suite 211, Brunswick, GA 31520

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session - Real Estate OCGA Section §50-14-3(b)(1)(B)

Closed Session – Pending or Potential Litigation OCGA Section §50-14-2

Personnel OCGA Section §50-14-2 (b)(2)

A **MOTION** was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch to enter into Closed Session to discuss Real Estate, Pending or Potential Litigation, Personnel. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3-0.

A **MOTION** was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch to return to Open Session. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3-0.

Returned to Open Session

A **MOTION** was made by Daren Pietsch and seconded by Greer Anderson to authorize resolution of the Brunswick & Glynn County Development Authority authorizing the application for the One Georgia Authority Equity Fund Grant and to allow Ryan Moore to sign for HWS with matching fund as presented, subject to legal review. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3:0.

A **MOTION** was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch to authorize extension of Eastgate contract with six-month extension with Robert Driggers as agent as presented, subject to legal review. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3:0.

ADJOURN

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Greer Anderson and seconded by Daren Pietsch. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Vice Chairman Bill Dawson

Attest:

Sherri Pruitt

Director of BR&E / Golden Isles Development Authority