

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2008**

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 2:25 p.m. Mr. Davis, Committee Chairman presided.

Members Attending:

George H. Smokey Davis, Chairman	James E. Kinard, Jr.
Johnny W. Jeffcoat	M. Todd Cullum
William C. Billy Derrick	

Absent:

*William B. Banning, Sr., V Chairman

*Mr. Banning was absent due to surgery.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Review of the Economic Development Strategic Plan - The Committee discussed to accept, approve, adopt and/or reject the proposed Economic Development Strategic Plan prepared by the Strategic Development Group, Inc. Ms. Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator, suggested the Committee consider receiving the plan as information and asked staff to incorporate it into the County's overall Strategic Plan.

Mr. Chuck Whipple, Senior Project Manager was asked about suggestions. He reported that with respect to the plan: **Goal 1 – Expansion and Retention of Existing Industry** – in the process of working on developing an industry directory and have begun a call program that started April 1st; **Goal 2 – Industrial Product Development** – presently focusing on the development and finishing of the Saxe Gotha Industrial Park; and **Goal 3 – Marketing and Recruitment** - looking at targeted marketing efforts with the Alliance. Mr. Whipple said they are working through the plan and adopting some of the recommendations and working on the Economic Development website areas that need improvement. He confirmed the document is already being used on a daily basis.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinard, seconded by Mr. Derrick to recommend to full Council to adopt the proposed Economic Development Strategic Plan as a working document and incorporate into the County's overall Strategic Plan.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes - Meeting of February 26, 2008 – A motion was made by Mr. Jeffcoat, seconded by Mr. Kinard to approve the February 26, 2008 minutes as submitted.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Executive Session/Legal Briefing – A motion was made by Mr. Derrick, seconded by Mr. Kinard to go into Executive Session for contractual matters and an update.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Davis reconvened the meeting in open session and reported there were no motions to be considered.

Old Business/New Business – None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

George H. Smokey Davis
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk