

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2009**

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Kinard, Committee V Chairman, presided.

Members Attending:

*William B. Banning, Sr., Chairman	James E. Kinard, Jr., V Chairman
William C. Billy Derrick	Johnny W. Jeffcoat
M. Todd Cullum	Debra B. Debbie Summers

*Mr. Banning arrived after the meeting was already in session.

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.

State and Local Economy Update - South Carolina Department of Commerce - Rebecca Gunnlaugsson, Ph.D., Economist - Dr. Gunnlaugsson presented a PowerPoint overview of the state and local economy. She presented the South Carolina Index of Leading Economic Indicators and how the indicators reflect the local economy including unemployment statistics. Based on her information, for the beginning of 2008 there were approximately 125,000 individuals employed in Lexington County and 124,504 employed in August 2009. Lexington County has seen a larger labor force growth driven by population growth. Dr. Gunnlaugsson also listed various industries in Lexington County that make up the employment base that include: construction, wholesale trade, transportation/warehousing, management of enterprises, manufacturing, retail trade, and healthcare. Handouts with Lexington County unemployment data were distributed to Committee members. For information only, no action taken.

Executive Session/Legal Briefing - A motion was made by Mr. Jeffcoat, seconded by Mr. Derrick to go into Executive Session for updates on economic development projects.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Banning was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Mr. Kinard reconvened the meeting in open session with no motions to be considered.

Harsco Update - Economic Development - Chuck Whipple, Manager and Tracy McMillin, Project Manager - Central South Carolina Alliance - Discussed in Executive Session, no action taken.

Project Crush - Economic Development - Chuck Whipple, Manager and Stephen Roddey, Senior Project Manager - Central South Carolina Alliance - Discussed in Executive Session, no action taken.

Approval of Minutes - Meeting of August 25, 2009 - A motion was made by Mr. Derrick, seconded by Mr. Cullum to approve the August 25, 2009 minutes as submitted.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Old Business/New Business - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

James E. Kinard, Jr.
V Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk