

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
JULY 23, 2013**

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Jeffcoat, Committee Chairman, presided.

Members Attending:

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, Chairman	Debra B. Summers, V Chairman
James E. Kinard, Jr.	Bobby C. Keisler
*M. Todd Cullum	

\*Mr. Cullum arrived after the meeting was already in session.

Also attending: Joe Mergo, III, County Administrator; Randy Poston, Chief Financial Officer; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; 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.

**Executive Session** - A motion was made by Mr. Keisler, seconded by Mr. Kinard to go into Executive Session to discuss several economic development matters.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Kinard	Ms. Summers

Absent: \*Mr. Cullum

\*Mr. Cullum was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Mr. Jeffcoat reported out of Executive Session with one motion to be considered.

**Chapin Business and Technology Park (CBTP) - Phase 2 Engineering Services - Economic Development - Chuck Whipple, Director; Randy Edwards, County Engineer** - A motion was made by Mr. Kinard, seconded by Ms. Summers to recommend full Council approve staff's recommendations for Phase 2 Engineering Services.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Cullum

Absent: \*Mr. Keisler

\*Mr. Keisler was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Mr. Jeffcoat reported that the Committee did not discuss Tab A (Resolution R13-1) during Executive Session and will proceed with discussion at this time.

**Resolution-R13-1- Distribution of Fee In Lieu of Tax Revenue (Goal 3) - Planning & GIS - Charlie Compton, Director of Planning and GIS** - Mr. Kinard reported in 2007 Council made a landmark decision to return to the citizens, through support of education in the County, a substantial part of the FILOT payments generated by the Council's Economic Development efforts. He said these efforts were brought about through the issuance of bonds that provided needed infrastructure for the different County industrial parks', Saxe Gotha, Chapin, and Batesburg-Leesville, and paid for by tax money generated county-wide. Mr. Kinard reported, therefore, Council decided the money should be returned back to the taxpayers county-wide and the best way to do that was through funding education because that is where the workers for these industrial development projects will be coming from. He said in January 2014, the first of the FILOT payments will become eligible for disbursement, therefore, this is a reasonable time to review how the funds should be distributed and for any adjustments that need to be made. The 2007 formula calls for FILOT distribution amongst the school districts based on two criteria weighted at 50 percent each; one is based on the student population of each district as a portion of the whole that we refer to as the work load for the district and the second is made up of the district's general population as a portion of the County's general population. Mr. Kinard requested Mr. Compton and staff to provide some basic information from the Planning and GIS Department. Mr. Kinard reported that Lexington County would be a model for the state and other counties because we are the only county doing this for education. He said the jobs being created in the County increasingly require schools to produce an educated quality workforce and if the County does not do this, then Economic Development as a whole is pointless. Mr. Compton provided a Power Point presentation with the data collected from the 2011 assessed values and 2011/12 student counts. The numbers reflect the 2010 Census at 264,000; 2011/12 students (Average Daily Membership-ADM) at 43,080 and the 2011 assessed values excluding the FILOT (1,041,016,836) and including the FILOT (1,092,397,396). He compared the differences between the census and student figures as well as the districts impacted. Staff provided three possible options for sharing FILOT payments with all five school districts; 1) quantity of the County student workload handle by each school district, 2) school districts' population compared to the County's total population, and 3) tax revenue received from each school district as a percentage of the County total. The Committee discussed the numbers presented as well as the six percent property taxes. Mr. Jeffcoat stopped the meeting due to the lack of time and asked staff to continue in August to allow more time for discussion.

**Ansaldo Park Discussions - Economic Development - Chuck Whipple, Director-** Discussed in Executive Session, no action taken.

**Old Business/New Business** - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee  
Assistant to the Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat  
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett, Clerk