

MINUTES – MEETING NOVEMBER 8TH

BROOKS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Jack Harrell called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Board members Tim Crosby, Erin McKenzie, Marie Horne, and Jack Harrell attended, along with Executive Director (E.D.) Stephanie Mata.

Minutes

Copies of the minutes of the Special Called meeting held September 29th, the monthly meeting held October 11th and the Special Called meeting held October 14th were reviewed. Tim Crosby motioned to approve the minutes of the meetings for the September 29th meeting as presented; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously accepted. Tim Crosby motioned to approve the minutes of the meetings for the October 11th meeting as presented; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously accepted. Tim Crosby motioned to approve the minutes of the meetings for the October 14th meeting as presented; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously accepted.

Appearances

None.

Financials

Mr. Harrell moved to the acceptance of the October financials. Erin McKenzie made a motion to approve the financials as presented; seconded by Tim Crosby; unanimously approved.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Mr. Harrell moved to New Business. E.D. Mata presented the Board the holiday schedule adopted by the Brooks County Board of Commissioners for approval and adoption by the Authority. Erin McKenzie made a motion to approve the holiday schedule; seconded by Tim Crosby; unanimously approved.

E.D. Mata presented the Community Beautification grant from the City of Morven for fencing around the green space in Morven. The Board had a question as to whether the City owns the property or the County, as the location of the field is out in the County area. Tim Crosby made a motion to Table the application until December, allowing sufficient time to learn whether or not the City owns the property; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously approved.

E.D. Mata presented the Community Beautification grant from the City of Pavo in the amount of \$18,972.85 for City signage, lighting and marketing materials for Community events. Tim Crosby made a motion to approve the grant in the amount of \$18,972.85; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously approved.

E.D. Mata presented the Community Beautification grant from the City of Barwick for utility maintenance for the light posts in the amount of \$14,332.18. Marie "Doc" Horne made a motion to approve the grant in the amount of \$14,332.18; seconded by Erin McKenzie; unanimously approved.

E.D. Mata presented our Consultant-for-hire, Mr. Jerome Tucker. Mr. Tucker addressed the Board, giving his extensive experience in Economic Development, industry and the USDA, and addressed how his services might best be utilized. Mr. Tucker's fee was negotiated to be \$2000 per month for the course of a minimum of two years

but no more than five, to be revisited at any time by either party. All additional expenses incurred by Mr. Tucker or his staff will be covered in the program proposals for which he will assist and only payable upon the success of those programs. Erin McKenzie made a motion to hire Mr. Tucker; seconded by Marie Horne; unanimously approved.

While there were no appearances, Chairman Harrell asked the group in the audience as to their concern/questions. The group in the audience identified themselves as members of the Garden Club of Quitman. The Garden Club had submitted an application for a Community Beautification and Economic Development Grant, but the grant had not been reviewed by the Board. E.D. Mata explained to the Board that the application, thus far, focused solely on one street within Quitman, and that while there is no "bright-line" rule that states that the Authority cannot give to non-profits, it is quite clear as to the qualifications it must meet: 1) The funds must be used for its intended purpose and 2) It must benefit the entire County. Since the application was specifically for the beautification of one single street within one City's limits, the application could not be approved. E.D. Mata and the Board spoke with the Garden Club about Gratuities Clause of the GA Constitution, by which we are held accountable. E.D. Mata agreed to assist them further before the Board reviews it in December.

Reports

No reports were given.

Motion to adjourn carried by Marie Horne; seconded by Tim Crosby; unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted:

Secretary