

Clarke County Economic Development Advisory Committee
February 15, 2017 Minutes

A meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) held in the Berryville/Clarke County Government Center, Berryville, Virginia, on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 1:00 PM.

Board: Bryan Conrad, Christina Kraybill, Dr. Meyer, John Milleson, Elizabeth "Betsy" Pritchard

Absent: Jim Barb, Christy Dunkle, David Weiss

Staff: Len Capelli

1. Call to Order

At 1:06 pm, John Milleson called the meeting to order.

2. Organizational Items

Elect Chair

Len Capelli called for nominations and election of the 2017 Chair.

Bryan Conrad, seconded by Christina Kraybill, moved to nominate and elect John Milleson to serve as 2017 Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Jim Barb	- Absent
Bryan Conrad	- Aye
Christy Dunkle	- Absent
Christina Kraybill	- Aye
John Milleson	- Aye
Eric Myer	- Aye
Elizabeth "Betsy" Pritchard	- Aye
David Weiss	- Absent

Following the vote, the meeting was turned over to John Milleson Chair.

Elect Vice Chair

Chair called for nominations for 2017 Vice Chair.

Bryan Conrad, seconded by Elizabeth “Betsy” Pritchard, moved to nominate and elect Eric Myer to serve as 2017 Vice Chair.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Jim Barb	- Absent
Bryan Conrad	- Aye
Christy Dunkle	- Absent
Christina Kraybill	- Aye
John Milleson	- Aye
Eric Myer	- Aye
Elizabeth “Betsy” Pritchard	- Aye
David Weiss	- Absent

Set Meeting Date, Time and Location

The Chair called for motion to accept.

Christina Kraybill, seconded by Bryan Conrad, moved, seconded by, to accept the schedule as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Jim Barb	- Absent
Bryan Conrad	- Aye
Christy Dunkle	- Absent
Christina Kraybill	- Aye
John Milleson	- Aye
Eric Myer	- Aye
Elizabeth “Betsy” Pritchard	- Aye
David Weiss	- Absent

2017 Meeting Schedule

February 15 – Organizational Meeting	August 16
March 15	September 20
April 19	October 18
May 17	November 15
June 21	December 20
July 19	

3. Adoption of Agenda

Eric Myer, seconded by Christina Kraybill, moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Jim Barb	-	Absent
Bryan Conrad	-	Aye
Christy Dunkle	-	Absent
Christina Kraybill	-	Aye
John Milleson	-	Aye
Eric Myer	-	Aye
Elizabeth "Betsy" Pritchard	-	Aye
David Weiss	-	Absent

4. Approval of Minutes

Bryan Conrad, seconded by Betsy Pritchard, moved to approve the November 16, 2016 minutes as presented. The motion carried as follows:

Jim Barb	-	Absent
Bryan Conrad	-	Aye
Christy Dunkle	-	Absent
Christina Kraybill	-	Aye
John Milleson	-	Aye
Eric Myer	-	Aye
Elizabeth "Betsy" Pritchard	-	Aye
David Weiss	-	Absent

5. Economic Development and Tourism Update by Len Capelli

Len briefly discussed the update contained in the packet.

Additional topics:

- There will be a session on March 29 at 7:00 PM to be held in the Main Meeting Room in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center. Four guest speakers will be presenting on helping Agri-business, Agri-tourism and helping existing and potential farmers to succeed. The title of the Session is: *Helpful Tips and information in Creating and Growing a Sustainable Farm Business*. Valuable information for farmers and those interested in starting a farm based business.
- There will be a Farm Tour April 29, four farms self-guided tour patterned after the successful Jefferson County Farm Tour.
- There is some interest in the Tri County Building on Cattleman Road. Helping prospects try to secure a grant from VDTAR.
- Have talked to the EDA about positioning Clarke County to qualify for an EDA rural grant.

- Distributed memo from Christy Dunkle on the Town of Berryville's activities.

6. Old Business

No old business put forth for discussion.

7. New Business

Clarke County Equine Group

Dr. Meyer spoke on behalf of the Clarke County Equine Group. The former Clarke County Equine Alliance is going to be back and in operation soon.

Dr. Meyer mentioned that Len Capelli had attended a recent meeting and has offered to host the Equine Alliance Web site as soon as the URL and the DATA are recovered and available.

Dr. Meyer brought up the need for an equine survey or an all livestock survey for the County. Several members asked what the purpose of the survey was. We were told to understand better where we are.

- The questions were rephrased to ask what will actually be done with the information.
- Is there an action plan?
- What actual purpose will having a more recent survey serve for the equine community and for the County?

John Milleson said until there is more information on purpose and use of the survey they can't recommend spending the money. Dr. Meyer said he would come back with additional information.

Mr. Capelli asked about the structure of a survey. He said that he would be willing to put a survey monkey together to gather preliminary information at no cost. The survey could be posted on Facebook, the two county web sites and other social media sites. This would provide some information about any drastic changes in the equine position in Clarke County since the last survey. Mr. Capelli mentioned that using the free service of survey monkey has some limitation but would certainly gather information and test countywide interest.

Mr. Milleson asked if we were following up on Mr. Barb's suggestion of having representatives of the Real Estate Board speak to the group. There has been no follow up, waiting on names to invite from Mr. Barb.

Mr. Capelli was asked if we promote Hay Auctions, and we have not. However, we will be following the Hash Hay auctions in the future and promote them on our web sites and on Facebook.

Approved 04/19/2017

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 1:00 pm.

9. Adjournment

Being no further business, at 1:45 pm, Chairman Milleson adjourned the meeting.

Minutes transcribed by: Len Capelli, Director Economic Development; Formatted by Lora B. Walburn