

**Newberry County Council
Economic Development Committee**

MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2015

6:00 PM

Courthouse Annex Conference Room

Present: **Leslie (Les) Hipp, Committee Chairman**
 Henry H Livingston, Council Chairman
 Scott Cain, Committee Member
 Steve Stockman, Committee Member

Others: **Teresa Powers, Economic Development Director**
 Wayne Adams, County Administrator
 Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council
 Keith Avery, CEO, Newberry Electric Coop.
 Stephanie Sullivan, Newberry Electric Coop.
 Patrick Meetze, Citizen

Media: None Present

1. Call to Order

Mr. Hipp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Election of 2015 Committee Chair

Mr. Cain nominated Mr. Hipp as Committee Chair; Mr. Adams called for other nominations, and there were none; unanimously approved.

3. Additions, Deletion, & Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda approved as presented.

4. Approval of December 15, 2015 Minutes

Mr. Stockman motioned to approve the Dec. 15, 2015 minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Cain; unanimously approved.

5. Public Comments

None

6. Central SC Alliance Report & Invoice (4th quarter)

Ms. Powers presented the Central SC Alliance report. She noted that the Alliance had sent us one RFI and added five new projects since December. Four of the prospects were foreign and one was of unknown origin. This totaled a \$245 million potential investment. There was a potential for 160 new jobs. CSCA has done marketing events, advertisement, and a brochure showcasing Newberry, according to Ms. Powers. They have also done a media blast on the Mega Site and Spec Building. Mr. Cain made motion to pay 4th quarter invoice; seconded by Mr. Stockman; unanimously approved. There was some discussion regarding Ms. Powers' new part time help.

7. Newberry Electric Cooperative County Fiber Plan

Mr. Avery shared with the committee that Newberry Electric Cooperative was in the process of running telecommunication fiber throughout the county. Mr. Avery said this is a great investment for the county for communication, data, and it gives the county a new level of infrastructure for marketing Newberry County. Comporium Communications will be the third party that will market the fiber to the residents of Newberry. It will offer high speed internet, cable, and remote video. NEC hopes to have four stations done by the end of the year. This will give the MC Commerce Park the fiber option by year's end. The whole county should be complete in 2 ½ years.

8. CSX Select Site Event

CSX selected the I-26 Mega Site as one of the top 20 mega sites in the country. There will be an announcement on March 18th at Piedmont Technical College, according to Ms. Powers. The mega site made the top 10 list for large-scale industry in *Southern Business & Development* magazine.

9. Industry Appreciation Week (March 31- April 4) Event

April 9, 2015 was set as the date for the Industry Appreciation event. Mr. Hipp suggested that members of Newberry County Council be there and greet the guests as they arrive. Ms. Powers, will get catering proposals and menus from Figaro, Cabana Café, and Steven W's.

10. Comments by and discussion items from the Committee Members

None

11. Executive Session

§30-4-70 (a) (5): Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by the public body.

Mr. Livingston made motion to go into Executive Session; seconded by Mr. Cain; unanimously approved.

[7:02 p.m. – 7:47 p.m.]

Mr. Hipp stated that the committee met in Executive Session, and no action was taken in that session.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

APPROVED:

Leslie Hipp, Committee Chairman

Devonna Summer, Recorder

