

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, September 17, 2014 - MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. McDermott, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Larry McDermott    Ruth Trager            Bishop Derek Triplett  
Excused: Tim Davis            Thomas Blawn        Phil Ehlinger Carol Kilian

Ex-Officio: Rob Ehrhardt, Volusia County Economic Development Manager

Staff: Emory Counts, Daytona Beach Economic/Community Development Director

**3. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, August 20, 2014 - Tabled**

**4. Reports**

A. Volusia County Economic Development (VCED) Division –Rob Ehrhardt

Mr. Ehrhardt made several announcements about upcoming events. He began his report by stating that on tomorrow, 9-18-14, the County Council would consider two items related to economic development, the first item is funding for the *CEO Exchange Roundtable* being facilitated by Ned Harper at Daytona State College’s Small Business Development Center. The second item would be funding for the *UCF Business Incubator* which currently houses seventeen businesses. As a point of information he reminded the Board that *labor market statistics* are due out at 10:00 am this Friday, 9-19-14, and it’s going to be very interesting to see where we are at this point in the year. He also reported that the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council is set to send its *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* (CEDS) to the EDA. The CEDS document is being reviewed right now and is on their website available for comment. He reminded Board members that the *Tri-Regional Business Summit* is scheduled to be held at Port Canaveral on September 24, 2014. Our area CareerSource Flagler-Volusia office is to participate in the Summit along with two of its CareerSource counterparts Brevard and Central Florida. The *VMA Showcase* is scheduled from 2:00-7:00 pm on October 2, 2014, at the ICI Center on the campus of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. The *Wings & Waves Air Show* is scheduled to occur October 10-12, 2014. The CEO Business Alliance is a Presenting Sponsor of this event. Finally, Mr. Ehrhardt announced that John Kizer, a long-time staff member, would retire at the end of the month.

B. Team Volusia Economic Development Corporation (TVEDC) – Keith Norden - Tabled

C. Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce (DRCC) – Nancy Keefer, President/CEO

Ms. Keefer also made several announcements about upcoming events. She reported that on this coming Friday, 9-19-14, Mike Grissom, Sr. Director of Political Affairs for the Florida Chamber would be the speaker at their “*Eggs and Issues*” breakfast program. Mr. Grissom is expected to provide updates regarding proposed constitutional amendments and other related legislative information. On another note Ms. Keefer is working with Mike Garrett the City’s Permits & Licensing Manager to put together an informational

program regarding the *permits & licensing process*. It will be designed to give businesses greater insight into how the required information helps in the process and provide helpful tips to access some of the recent advances made to enhance communications. Although no date is set for this program she is looking at a time in November. The Chamber's "*Hob-Nob*" event is planned for October 7, 2014 at the Ocean Center. She expects some 20-25 candidates for political office would come out and meet with members of the community. In addition, Ms. Keefer is working with the City to host the *NAIA Football Championships* in December 2014. This is a three-year commitment to bring that football tournament here to Daytona Beach/Volusia County and would generate quite an economic impact. Also, one of our County Councilpersons is supporting the construction of *ball fields for the USAAA*. The general understanding is that they are thinking about moving from their current location in Kissimmee, FL to Daytona Beach/Volusia County. Dr. Kent Sharples, President of the CEO Business Alliance was in the audience and commented that a significant number of ball fields would need to be built to accommodate USAAA and that would mean a sizable investment would need to be made up-front. The net economic impact to the area is still being examined and more information about the soundness and return on investment should be forthcoming.

D. Vision Foundation –Larry McDermott, VVIM Chair - *Tabled*

E. Fentress Boulevard Business Park Discussion – Tim Davis - *Tabled*

5. Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Application – *Masci General Contractor, Inc. – Emory Counts*  
Mr. Counts reviewed the ad valorem exemption application with the Board. Afterwards, the company President, Mr. Leonel Masci, appeared before the Board to explain what the company does and talk about future plans. This business has been in this area since 1995 and would build an asphalt plant here and expand its business into Daytona Beach. No action was taken on this item at this meeting for lack of a quorum.

6. Old Business

There was no old business brought before the Board.

7. Economic Trends - Eggs and Issues” Program - *Tabled*

Mr. McDermott had earlier suggested having this event at the Yvonne Scarlett-Golden (YSG) Center and to have the program participation organized by sometime in November.

8. New Business

There was no old business brought before the Board.

9. Citizens’ Comments

There were no citizen’s comments brought before the Board.

**10. Schedule next meeting – SPECIAL MEETING - 8:30 AM, Tuesday September 23, 2014**

After discussion a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2014 to take up two items: the August 20, 2014 Minutes; and the ad valorem exemption application from Masci General Contractor, Inc.

2014 Schedule (Additional meetings may be scheduled to accommodate business development needs)

January 17 Eggs & Issues;	April 16;	July 16; October 15;
February 19;	May 21;	August 20; November 19;
March 5; 19;	June (no meeting);	September 17; 23 December 17;

2015 Schedule (Additional meetings may be scheduled to accommodate business development needs)

January 16 Eggs & Issues?;	April 15;	July 15; October 14;
February 18;	May 20;	August 19; November 18;
March 18;	June (no meeting);	September 16; December 16;

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 A.M.

Emory M. Counts

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Emory M. Counts, Economic/Community Development Director