## **Meeting Minutes**

Present: Feaster, Dallas, Gough, Mantua, Murray, Patrick (Designee for Panu), Sulka

Absent: Alsko, Fobes, Rodriguez, Panu, Sommerville, Shelton

Staff: O'Toole, Stone

Guests: Eleanore Lightsey, John Fleming, Stephen Steese, Eric Sommerville

Chair Feaster called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

Chair Feaster entertained a motion to approve June minutes; Gough moved; Sulka seconded; approved unanimously.

O'Toole provided an update on FY 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 budgets.

The BCEDC reviewed current scorecard and results. The BCEDC is currently at \$9.34 million in capital investment, 13 new jobs, and 9 business retention meetings for FY 2021-2022. The BCEDC currently has 39 'A' ranked leads.

The road repaving project at the Beaufort Commerce Park has been complete. The BCEDC used a \$200,000 grant from SC Department of Commerce as well as funds from the County and Dominion Energy to complete the road repaving. The roads that were paved are Schork Road and Schwartz Road.

The BCEDC hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the Magnus Development Partners 64,000 sq. ft. industrial spec building on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The event featured Tom Davis, Stephen Murray, Ashley Feaster, John O'Toole and others as speakers. The event had a great turnout and has received positive media feedback.

Materials Research Group has closed on their construction contract and will be breaking ground on their 10,000 sq. ft. industrial building at the beginning of September. The BCEDC also expects to break ground on a 25,000 sq. ft. building pad at the park in the next few months. This project is being funded by a 2018 SC Department of Commerce Grant. JR Wilson will be constructing the pad.

The BCEDC was awarded a \$10,000 grant from SC Department of Commerce for the creation of drone marketing videos for two sites on Hilton Head Island – Palmetto Bay Business Park and 355 William Hilton Parkway. The BCEDC also participated in the SEDC Annual Conference where John O'Toole presented on the GIS Webtech tool and using data in the site selection process. The BCEDC recently partnered on a Federal grant opportunity with South Coast Cyber Center and has been awarded funds for lead generation, app development, and website development.

The BCEDC is currently in the process of working with Convergent on private sector fundraising and is also planning the annual converge summit. An industry roundtable is also planned for September 10<sup>th</sup> and is being done in partnership with Jasper County and SCA.

Stone gave an update on promising BCEDC projects. Project Mira (\$2.05 M and 28 New Jobs) and Project Rogue (\$8.34 M and 13 New Jobs) are both pending announcements. Project Robin is a fiber glass manufacturer interested in the Beaufort Commerce Park. Project Brick is a brick distributor interested in a building on Trask Parkway. Project Birch is an existing industry expansion. And Project Magnus II is the negotiations on a second Magnus speculative building at the park.

O'Toole reviewed the BCEDC product report.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 pm.