

Development Authority of Lumpkin County Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2011, 9am office of NGN, 2nd floor, BBT Building

Board Members in attendance: Chris Dockery (Chairman), Don Trice, D. L. "Tinker" Head, J. B. Jones, Jimmy Anderson, John Gaston, Jim Curtis.

Associate Members/guests/others in attendance: Steve Gooch, Gary McCullough, Gerald Lewy, K. C. Horne, Dudley Owens, Bruce Abraham, Lee Ann Roy, Sharon Hall, Paul Beck, Bryson Payne, Bill Scott, Joe Phillips, Tim Bowden

Call to order: Chris called the meeting to order at 9:02

Board member James Curtis was sworn in by Chairman Chris Dockery.

Agenda: Don Trice suggested Item #10 NGN presentation to be moved to Item #6 and Item #9 Seimens Bldg update and related terms of BBT loan to be discussed in Executive Session. Motion to approve agenda as amended: Don Trice: Second: Tinker Head. Motion carried.

April 12, 2011 regular minutes: Staff error, minutes not in binders. April minutes will be emailed to members and approved at June meeting.

Associate Members Reports

- Lumpkin County. Commissioner Tim Bowden said county departments are working on budgets. County is facing financial challenges.
- City of Dahlonega. Mayor Gary McCullough reported the streetscape improvements are in process. A storm sewer drain between Butler Furniture and Parks Clothing has collapsed and will be replaced with the work being done at night. The reservoir has brought a lot of positive activity.
- North Georgia College & State University. Bryson Payne. College is doing well and is in final stage of construction. Fall enrollment estimated at 6300. Waiting on announcement of new president. Steve Gooch commented that some citizens have expressed issue with the college getting in to the landlord business with the retail spaces included in the new bookstore building. Chris said the issue is that other landlords will be competing for tenants and they have to pay taxes on their property even when it is vacant and the college does not pay taxes on their retail units.
- Lumpkin County Water Authority. Dudley Owens reported they continue to proceed with upgrades to computer systems. Tim Bowden commended Dudley for job well done.

Presentation from North Georgia Network

Bruce Abraham, Joe Phillips, Bryson Payne, Paul Belk – gave presentation on origination of effort to bring broadband to north Georgia mountains including a report from engineer Joe Phillips about how the technology works. Members raised the issue of dissention with Windstream. NGN representatives explained that they are primarily a wholesaler

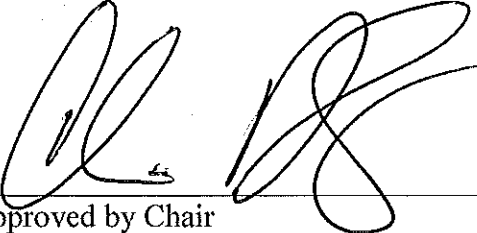
but are opening the window of opportunity for competition for Windstream from other carriers to purchase broadband service from NGN and offer it to retail consumers. Members expressed the desire for mediation with Windstream to attempt to lessen tension, noting that Windstream has been a long time employer in Lumpkin County.

Financial reports

- Monthly financials. Motion to accept financial statement: John Gaston. Second: Tinker Head. Motion carried.
- 2011 Budget. Treasurer Don Trice explained that the final budget was late because of uncertainty about the contract for the Seimens Bldg. He noted that because there was no revenue from the building the Development Authority will experience a negative cash flow for 2011. Chris, for clarification, stated that if the financial situation continues as written in this budget the Development Authority will be out of funds within 5 years. Members discussed the lack of resources for funding, stating that the SPLOST funds approved by taxpayers have not materialized and the Development Authority has not been a priority for SPLOST funds. However, now would be a good time to purchase land for future investments. Motion to approve 2011 budget. John Gaston. Second. Jimmy Anderson. Motion carried.

Break 11:07. Upon return from break went into Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn: JB Jones. Second: Tinker Head. Meeting adjourned at 11:51am.


Approved by Chair