

Town of Richlands
Industrial/Economic Development Authority
December 4th, 2023

The Richlands IEDA held a regular monthly meeting at 6:00 P.M. with the following present:

Joseph Vance	Cody Harman
Craig Earls	Jeff Casey

Members Absent: Dillion Smith, Dr. Brandon Buskill

Town Representatives: Jordan Bales, Laura Mollo

Guests:

Joseph Vance called the meeting to order. Cody Harman opened the meeting with prayer.

Craig Earls made a motion to approve the agenda. Joseph Vance seconded the motion. No further discussion. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

The minutes from the November 6th, 2023, meetings need to be amended from EIDA to IEDA. Joseph Vance made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Craig Earls seconded the motion. No further discussion. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

New Business:

IEDA Member Introduction:

Cody Harman Jr. was approved by the Richlands Town Council meeting on November 14th, 2023. He was sworn in at the Tazewell County Clerk's office on November 17th, 2023. Mr. Harman introduced himself and his conveyor business. He was one of the original engineers for S & S. He started several businesses over the years and has extensive experience in owning and running businesses. We welcome Mr. Harman to the Richlands IEDA.

Miscellaneous IEDA Topics:

Jeff Casey: Talked to Nathan about the potential for a power plant over at lake park. He sent me a copy of the deeds. That area is right in line with the AEP transmission lines.

Joseph Vance: We are looking at a gas generator that is 5MW, but not at that location. The location is already being discussed with the Town Council.

Laura Mollo: Correct, the power plant will be a Town Council discussion.

Jordan Bales: I recommend having the attorney to look at the deed to see if that proposal can be usable.

The group discussed the town lowering power rates and how these types of incentives can be motivation to get new businesses into town.

Jeff Casey: Regarding the business that we previously discussed that designs and manufactures steel studs. I investigated the old warner building and it was too small. We did have an option of going to property at Claypool Hill, but Nathan advised we do not have available land to build on. The group discussed the potential for other locations near the Frazier tire location.

Jordan Bales: What about the land behind the old King Kone?

Joseph Vance: Travis Hackworth owns the building and the land down to the river.

Jeff Casey: How about the business incentives?

Craig Earls: I think we should have our new manager come to the next meeting to discuss potential incentives and how we can leverage them to get new businesses into town.

Jospeh Vance: What is the update on the super fund site on Iron Street site?

Jordan Bales: It is still in process.

Craig Earls: Since our next meeting is on the 1st and is New Years Day, do we want to move it to next Monday the 8th? I can let the town know to update the calendar.

Jospeh Vance made a motion to move the next IEDA meeting to January 8th and adjourn. Craig Earls seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Next Meeting January 8th, at 6:00 P.M