**Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners**

**Economic Development Retreat**

**November 2, 2017**

Present: Sherrie Taylor, Chairman, District 5

Eric Hinson, Vice-Chair, District 1-arrived late

Dr. Anthony Viegbesie, District 2

Gene Morgan, District 3

Brenda Holt, District 5

Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator

Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator

Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

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| 1. | **WELCOME**  Chair Taylor called the Retreat to order at 4:02 p.m. and said goal was to come up with plan to move forward to economic development could be seen in Gadsden County. |
| 2. | **INTRODUCTION OF DR. ALVIN B. JACKSON, JR.**  Chair Taylor introduced Dr. Alvin B. Jackson, Jr.  *Commissioner Hinson arrived at this juncture of the meeting.*    Dr. Jackson had everyone introduce themselves. |
| **GENERAL BUSINESS** | |
| 3. | **WHAT IS LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT? OVERVIEW OF SUWANNEE COUNTY**   1. Economic Development Strategic Plan   Commissioner Holt said there was an Industrial Development Board that only meets once a year-how do we go after companies?  Dr. J said that was result of well thought out strategic plan. Looking for higher level specific outcomes-need to develop better partnership with schools, look at permitting process   1. Do we want to improve current efforts?   Dr. Jackson said at end of day have to clearly articulate what ED goals are-are long-term investment-main is infrastructure-without in place |
| 4. | **DISCUSSION OF BOCC’S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUCCESSES** |
| 5. | **GOALS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** |
| 6. | **CONFIDENTIALITY** |
| 7. | **STRATEGIES FOR I-10 DEVELOPMENT AND DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT** |
| 8. | **FULL-TIME IN-HOUSE STAFF VERSUS SOURCING WITH GCDC (PROS & CONS)** |
| 9. | **THE ROLE OF THE GADSDEN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** |
| 10. | **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION** |
| **CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD** | |
| **MOTION TO ADJOURN** | |
|  | Retreat adjourned at 7:29 p.m. |