

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: July 3, 2007

Date Submitted: June 25, 2007

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Marlon Brown, County Manager
Farnita L. Saunders, Community Development Director

Subject: Appointment of District 5 Member to the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) appointment of members to the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority Board for District 5.

Background:

Section 159.45, Florida Statutes sets forth guidelines for local governments to establish Industrial Development Authorities, by adopting a resolution declaring there is a need for an IDA. In 1990, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners established its IDA based upon the Statute. The IDA Board is to be established with no less than five persons who are residents and electors of the County. Gadsden County currently has five members, with one representing each district.

During the June 5, 2007 meeting, Commissioners representing Districts 1 and 4 appointed members, however, the appointment remains open for District 5.

Analysis:

The Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority was established for the purpose of developing or financing industry projects with the County. Of the initial five members appointed, Section 159.45, F.S. requires that one member shall serve for one year, one for two years, one for three years and the remaining members serving for four years. Thereafter, the BOCC may appoint members for terms of four years until their terms expire. Also, the BOCC may at any time fill vacancies for an unexpired term. Once a member's term expires, they may be eligible for reappointment, but can be removed by the BOCC for misfeasance, malfeasance or willful neglect of duty.

Fiscal Impact:

The appointment of members serves two purposes: 1) meets statutory requirements related to appointments and 2) allows staff to begin working more closely with the authority, reestablishing an industrial development plan for the County and plan for viable job opportunities for industries most likely to locate to Gadsden County. Depending upon the industry, the fiscal impact in the long term would be invaluable. However, this impact can be measured more accurately as the board becomes active and goals are established.

Options:

Option 1: Approve the appointment of the member representing District 5.

Option 2: Provide other direction.

Recommendation(s):

Option 1: Approve the appointment of the member representing District 5.