

ORDINANCE NO. 2001-2

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND TO BE USED TO INDUCE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WITHIN CALHOUN COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR THE SOURCE AND USE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS, AUDITS AND ANNUAL REPORTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Calhoun County has initiated an aggressive economic development program to diversify the local economy, provide for protection against economic recession and downturns, and create and retain quality jobs for its residents; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Economic Development Fund is necessary for Calhoun County to become competitive in attracting industries and businesses to the County and in providing incentives to existing industries and businesses that need assistance in expanding and creating new quality jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce shall be designated as the County's Economic Development Representative,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. FUND AUTHORIZED AND ESTABLISHED.

The Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") hereby creates a separate fund to be known and designated as the Economic Development Fund will be funded through appropriations from the General Revenue Fund (or other proper sources) and through additional funding as may be authorized by the Board.

SECTION 2. USE OF FUNDS.

Grants from the Economic Development Fund shall be made for the purpose of, among other things, promoting, rewarding and fostering the economic development of Calhoun County; inducing additional investment through a new location or expansion of any industry or business; and bringing additional year-round payrolls to supplement the present economy. Such uses and purposes are hereby declared to be a County purpose.

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SECTION 3. AMOUNT OF GRANT.

The availability and amount of grants from the Economic Development Fund shall be decided on a case-by-case basis by the board based on the Fund balance, the proposed use of the funds and other considerations deemed appropriate by the Board.

SECTION 4. POWERS OF BOARD IN RESPECT TO FUND.

The Board may spend moneys from the Economic Development Fund directly or indirectly solely for the purposes set forth in this Ordinance and subject to such supervision, accounting and regulation as the Board may impose.

SECTION 5. GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Any business relocating to, or expanding within Calhoun County may make application for grant funds at the office of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce. A review team comprised of a Calhoun County Commissioner, the Calhoun County Grants Coordinator, the President of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, the Calhoun County Clerk of Court and the Calhoun County Building Inspector, or their previously designated alternates, will review the applicants and make recommendations to the Board as to whether the grant application should be approved and, if so, the award amount and any conditions to be placed on the award.

SECTION 6. GRANT APPLICANTS.

Each applicant that the Board approves for a grant shall execute a grant agreement approved by the Board, which shall specify, among other things, the criteria and time frames for meeting grant requirements.

SECTION 7. RECORDS AND REPORTS.

(a) Each grantee shall, in addition to other requirements in the grant agreement, document the use of funds and certify that funds have been expended in accordance with the grant agreement; create and maintain records of new jobs created, and supply the Board all records relating to the grant on an annual basis. For a period of five (5) years after the execution of the grant agreement, the grantee must provide the Board with an annual status report of its business operations and must maintain all such records for five (5) years after termination of the grant.

(b) The Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce shall provide the Board with quarterly reports detailing new jobs created by all grant recipients and an analysis of the overall performance of the program.

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY.

In any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, it is the intent of the Board that such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of the Ordinance which may be given effect without the invalid provision or application and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.


This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners in and for Calhoun County, after due notice and publication, in the regular meeting on the 5TH day of JUNE, , 2001, and upon official acknowledgment from the Department of State that this Ordinance has been filed with the Department of State.

ADOPTED DURING REGULAR SESSION, THIS 5TH DAY OF JUNE,
2001, BY A VOTE OF 5 TO 0.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALHOUN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: 
Donnell Whitfield, Chairman

ATTEST:


Ruth W. Attaway, Clerk