

Closed Session II (Project Green Line - Technimark) — February 7, 2011

At 6:22 p.m., the Board, already in closed session on another matter, began closed session on a different matter relating to the location or expansion of business in the area, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4). Commissioners Holmes, Frye, Kemp, Lanier and Haywood were present. Also present were County Manager Richard Wells; Will Massie, Finance Officer; Ben Morgan, County Attorney; Aimee Scotton, Associate County Attorney; Amanda Varner, Deputy Clerk to the Board; and Bonnie Renfro and Harry Lane from Randolph County Economic Development Corporation.

Bonnie Renfro, EDC President, said that Technimark has experienced growth and projects a 60% growth in revenues in 2011. During 2009-2010, the company added 55-60 new jobs, 80,000 square feet of additional space, and invested \$8 million.

Ms. Renfro updated the Board on a planned new wash line at Wellmark, which is a division of Technimark. This new line will increase recycled product and reduce solid waste. This expansion project has a projected capital investment of \$15-\$20 million. Ms. Renfro said that the company has requested any available assistance and has been notified of a Recycling Business Assistance Grant opportunity. Ms. Renfro also mentioned that the EDC has assisted Technimark in securing a lease from Norfolk Southern for additional rail spur capacity needed to achieve the increased production.

The company is also considering investment in new equipment to reduce energy usage in production and is exploring tax credit opportunities for this program.

Technimark is also evaluating the feasibility of the construction of a new technology and training center on its Asheboro campus with an estimated investment of \$1,350,000-\$1,670,000. The facility would be 13,000 square feet and would centralize product innovation, engineering and design work in Asheboro. The project could result in 30 new high-wage engineering jobs at an average wage of \$58,333. This project is contingent upon local and state assistance. The alternate plan to constructing the new facility is to decentralize the same function worldwide and set up at individual operation locations. However, Ms. Renfro stated that this part of the project is on hold, due to the current economic situation.

Ms. Renfro stated that she is presenting these plans to the Board at this time in order to gauge their interest in providing any type of incentive. She suggested a possible \$30,000 performance-based grant as the 30 new jobs are created. She also said that if a grant from the County is approved at some point, she suggested that it be set up to be paid to the Randolph Development Corp., whereby the Economic Development Corp. would, in turn, administer the funds. Ms. Renfro also stated that a public hearing would need to be held prior to approval of the grant.

She said that she would report back at a later time with more information.

Closed session on this topic ended at 6:28 p.m.

J. Harold Holmes, Chairman

Darrell L. Frye

Phil Kemp

Stan Haywood

Arnold Lanier

Amanda Varner, Deputy Clerk to the Board