



## REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 1

**DATE OF MEETING:** June 20, 2016

**REQUESTED BY:** Randell Woodruff, County Manager

**SHORT TITLE:** Public Hearing on Economic Development and Economic Incentive Appropriations.

**BACKGROUND:** Session Law 2015-277 signed by the Governor on October 20, 2015 made several significant changes to the General Statutes that govern a local government's ability to make appropriations for economic development purposes. Specifically, the law imposes new notification and public hearing requirements for every appropriation or expenditure related to economic development. Previously, these were only required when approving economic development incentives or activities related to improving real property listed in GS 158-7.1(b).

In addition to the new procedural requirements, elected boards are also required to make a specific finding prior to approving any appropriation for economic development that the appropriation will "increase the population, taxable property, agricultural industries, employment, industrial output or business prospects of the city or county."

The following economic development expenditures have been recommended for appropriation in the FY 16-17 budget and adopted by the Board of Commissioners on June 6, 2016.

If, after conducting the public hearing, the Board finds that the appropriations/expenditures identified below increase the population, taxable property, agricultural industries, employment, industrial output or business prospects for Pender County, the Board appropriates the items identified below as part of the FY 2016-2017 Adopted Budget, then no additional Board action will be required to expend the funds. New incentives, appropriations or expenditures or subsequent changes, will require public notice and another hearing.

### Economic Development Agencies/Organizations

These appropriations will be funded from General Fund revenues of the County:

Organization	Amount	Paid Over	Description of Activities/Expense
The Southeastern Partnership	\$20,000	1 payment	Regional & targeted industry specific marketing

Cape Fear Council of Governments	\$32,727	1 payment	Membership fees, local government services & transportation planning, workforce development/investment
Southeastern Economic Development Commission	\$4,700	1 payment	Assist project development necessary for the solicitation of grant funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA)
Wilmington Business Development	\$110,000	1 payment	Recruitment/assistance for business expansion and/or relocation efforts

**Previously Approved Contractual Incentive Payments**

These organizations must meet specified investment/job requirements before payment is made. These appropriations will be funded from the General Fund revenues of the County.

Organization	Amount	Paid Over
RC Creations (Acme Smoked Fish)	Up to \$100,000	1 payment

**SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED:** To hold a public hearing and to solicit public comment/input on Economic Development and Economic Development Incentives for FY 2016-2017.