

Connecting Communities: To The Next Bright Idea

Annual Meeting & Economic Development Forum

March 25-28, 2012



Schedule of Events

Sunday – March 25

- 2:00 – 5:00 Registration
- 3:00 – 4:00 Legislative Update – *Senator David Schafer, Congressman Don Parsons*
- 4:00 – 5:00 My ECG: Discover the Resources Available through ECG

Monday – March 26

- 6:30 – 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:00 ECG Board Election: Tabulation & Results
- 9:00 – 9:30 Opening Remarks – *Keith Bass, ECG*
- General Session**
- 9:30 – 10:30 Economic Prospect 2012 – *Roger Tutterow, Mercer University*
- 10:30 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 11:45 Governor's Competitive Initiative – *Chris Cumiskey, GDEcD Commissioner*
- 11:45 – 1:15 Lunch
- Concurrent Sessions**
- 1:15 – 2:30 (Utility) Driving the Value for Grid Modernization – *A Panel Discussion: GE Energy, Badger Meter, PayGo Electric*
- 1:15 – 2:30 (E&CD) Accelerated Development for Your Retail Sites – *Ken Wood, Planners and Engineers Collaborative & Palmer Bayless, Emerge Real Estate Services*
- 2:30 – 3:00 Break
- General Session**
- 3:00 – 3:45 Cordele's Newest Asset: An Inland Port – *Steve Renfrow, Crisp County Power Commission & Bruce Drennan, Cordele Crisp Industrial Development Council*
- 3:45 – 4:15 Federal Legislation: Up Next – *Desmarie Waterhouse, American Public Power Association*
- 6:30 – 7:00 Reception
- 7:00 – 9:30 Dinner

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Tuesday – March 27

6:30 – 8:00 Breakfast Buffet

Concurrent Sessions

8:00 – 8:45 (E&CD) ECG Resources to Recruit New Business – *Walt Farrell, ECG*

8:45 – 10:00 (E&CD) State Small Business Credit Initiative – *Brian Williamson, DCA*

10:00 – 10:30 (E&CD) Centers of Innovation – A New Vision – *Mark Lytle, GDEcD*

8:00 – 8:45 (Utility) Public Power Trends and Best Practices – *Steve VanderMeer, Hometown Connections*

8:45 – 9:45 (Utility) Energy Issues Affecting Industry Today – *Utility Customer Panel Discussion*

9:45 – 10:30 (Utility) Planning for Power Costs of the Future – *John Lansing, ECG, Steve Jackson, MEAG Power & Jim Fuller, MEAG Power*

10:30 – 11:00 Break

General Session

11:00 – 11:45 Dalton-Whitfield: Raising the Bar for Economic Development in Northwest GA – *Mark Buckner, Dalton Utilities & Elyse Cochran, Dalton-Whitfield Joint Development Authority*

11:45 Lunch (*At the course for golfers*)

1:00 Golf at The Oconee / Explore Reynolds Plantation and Lake Oconee Amenities

6:00 – 9:00 Reception by the Lake

Wednesday – March 28

6:30 – 8:00 Breakfast Buffet

General Session

8:00 – 9:30 Georgia's Competitive Position in a Challenging Economy – *Amy Gerber, Jones Lang LaSalle*

9:30 – 10:30 Current Themes in Economic Development for 2012 – *Tom Croteau, Scott McMurray & Blair Lewis, GDEcD*

Adjourn

11:00 ECG Board Meeting