

**COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 14, 2012**

The Committee of the Whole met on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building, beginning at 3:15 p.m. Mr. Banning presided.

Members Attending:

William B. Banning, Sr. Chairman
James E. Kinard
George H. Davis
Bobby C. Keisler
M. Todd Cullum

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, V Chairman
Frank J. Townsend, III
Debra B. Summers
K. Brad Matthews

Also attending: Joe Mergo, III, Interim County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

EdVenture's National Honor and Plans for the Future and Its Impact for Lexington County - Catherine Horne, President/CEO, EdVenture Children's Museum - Ms. Horne introduced Museum trustees, staff and friends of EdVenture that were in attendance. A PowerPoint was presented highlighting EdVenture's National Honor with plans for the Museum's future and its impact on Lexington County. Ms. Horne gave a brief overview of EdVenture's outreach programs. EdVenture has been awarded the 2011 National Medal for Museums which is the greatest honor a museum can earn and is the first in South Carolina to win the national honor. Also, the museum has been named a "Top Ten Children's Museum" in the United States and recognized as the 2012 "Best Museum" by Columbia Metropolitan Magazine readers which translates to an annual \$14 million regional economic impact. Ms. Horne reported that 18 percent of its visitors are from Lexington County which is around 40,000-42,000 people a year. EdVenture is embarking on the "Next Generation" which is where the museum continues to invest and deepen the educational experiences for both children and adults as well as meet the needs of the 21st Century. Their plans are to raise \$5 million over the next three to five years and have already raised \$3 million to date. The funding source breakdown is outlined at 50 percent from private sources and 50 percent from government sources. Ms. Horne thanked Council for the endorsement always given to EdVenture as a place that families and schools in Lexington County would use in an effective fashion. For information only, no action taken.

Executive Session - A motion was made by Mr. Jeffcoat, seconded by Mr. Davis to go into Executive Session to discuss six contractual and seven legal items.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Banning reconvened the meeting in open session with no motions to be considered.

Old Business/New Business - Local Contractor Procurement - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

William B. Banning, Sr.
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett, Clerk