

NCEDA DEVELOPMENTS



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Emily Atkinson, Executive Editor

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I want to start by thanking everyone who attended the 2008 Fall Conference September 22-23. It was an outstanding conference. NCEDA members had the honor of hearing from the two major party gubernatorial candidates, Mayor Pat McCrory and Lt. Governor Bev Perdue, who outlined their plans for economic development in North Carolina.

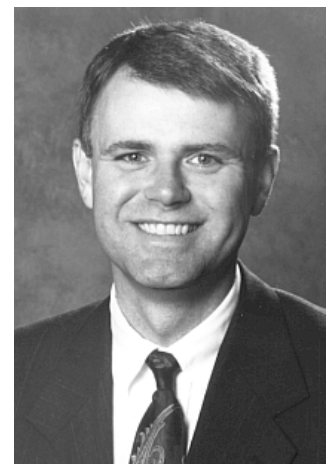
I have heard from many long time NCEDA members that they are unaware of any time in our history that our organization was afforded the time and interaction the two candidates made available during the conference. Presentations were also made by Secretary of Commerce Jim Fain and Senator Fletcher Hartsell.

The sponsors of the Fall Conference deserve a big thank you for supporting the event, because without them, conferences like this could not happen. Much appreciation also goes to Joanna Thompson and the Fall Conference Committee for doing a great job with the planning and execution of the event. I think we all are looking forward to returning to the Embassy Suites in Concord for next year's conference.

Thanks for your continued support of NCEDA.

Scott T. Hamiet

NCEDA President
2008-2009



2008 Fall Conference Wrap-Up



Scott Hamilton, NCEDA President, asks Lt. Governor Bev Perdue a question during the NCEDA gubernatorial forum.



Thank you to our Fall Conference Sponsors

*Cabarrus Economic
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*Warren and Associates
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*Wayne County
Development Alliance*

*Womble Carlyle
Sandridge and Rice*

Jim Fain, Secretary of Commerce and NCEDA member; Joanna Thompson, NCEDA Fall Conference Chair; Scott Hamilton, NCEDA President.



Pat McCrory, Mayor of Charlotte, addresses the NCEDA Membership and lays out his 10-point plan for economic development.



2008-09 NCEDA Calendar of Events

NCEDA November Networking Luncheon

“Ready to Respond: Buildings & Sites ”

In today's competitive economic development environment, it's critical that communities have their sites ready when opportunities arise. We've all experienced the fact that, when prospects call, time is of the essence and our communities must respond immediately -- often in a matter of hours! If your site is not prepared when that opportunity knocks, you have already lost.

Plan on attending the next NCEDA networking luncheon on November 12 at the Capital City Club in Raleigh to hear from Randy Broome, former executive with Duke Energy. Randy will share his insight and experiences gained over the past six years as he specialized in assisting communities in getting their sites ready to market.

When: Wednesday, November 12, 2008; 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Where: Capital City Club; Raleigh, N.C.

Deadline for registrations will be Friday, November 7. Any cancellations after this date will be refunded, less a \$20 processing fee.

Register online at www.nceda.org.

2008-09 Scheduled Events

November 12, 2008

Networking Luncheon: Capital City Club

December 10, 2008

Networking Luncheon: Cardinal Club

March 5-6, 2009

2009 MidWinter Conference: Pinehurst, N.C.

April 15, 2009

Networking Luncheon: TBD

May 13, 2009

Networking Luncheon: Capital City Club

June 15-17, 2009

2009 Annual Conference: Atlantic Beach, N.C.

Additional Dates to Note

2009-2010

March 3-4, 2010

2010 MidWinter Conference: Pinehurst, N.C.

June 14-16, 2010

2010 Annual Conference: Atlantic Beach, N.C.

2010-2011

March 2-3, 2011

2011 MidWinter Conference: Pinehurst, N.C.

June 14-16, 2011

2011 Annual Conference: Asheville, N.C.

Meet Your Board

This month we will feature board member Jimmy Smith.



Jimmy Smith has been employed with the Four County Electric Membership Corporation for the past 21 years. He serves as the Director of Economic and Community Development, with the primary responsibilities of: economic and community development, leading key accounts, government relations and legislative lobbying. He has been involved with economic development for over 22 years.

Jimmy is a native of Lenoir County and he currently resides in New Hanover County. A graduate of North Lenoir High School, Jimmy went on to graduate from East Carolina University with a bachelor of arts in Geography and a minor in Urban & Regional Planning. He also participated in graduate studies in geography at ECU.

Active in his community, Jimmy serves on a number of boards across the state. He is currently a board member of: Cape Fear Resource, Conservation & Development past Chairman; NCEDA; North Carolina's Southeast; Pender Economic Development Alliance, Chairman; Pender Adult Services, past Chairman; Pender County Community Foundation, president; Wilmington Committee of 100;

and Wilmington Regional Film Commission. Jimmy is also a member of Topsail Presbyterian Church.

Jimmy, an Eagle Scout, is married to Beverly Kennedy. The couple has one stepdaughter and one granddaughter.

Meet Your Patron Sponsor

This month we will feature Patron Sponsor: EMBARQ.

EMBARQ Corporation (NYSE: EQ), headquartered in Overland Park, Kansas, offers a complete suite of communications services. The company has approximately 18,000 employees and operates in 18 states. EMBARQ is included in the S&P 500 and is in the Fortune 500(R) list of America's largest corporations.

For consumers, EMBARQ offers an innovative portfolio of services that includes reliable local and long distance home phone service, high-speed Internet, wireless and satellite TV from DISH Network(R) -- all on one monthly bill.

For businesses, EMBARQ has a comprehensive range of flexible and integrated services designed to help businesses of all sizes be more productive and communicate with their customers. This service portfolio includes local voice and data services, long distance, Business-Class High-Speed Internet, wireless, satellite TV from DIRECTV(R), enhanced data network services, voice and data communication equipment and managed network services.

For more information, visit embarq.com.

Contact: Jon Hamm

Phone: (919) 554-7311

Email: jon.r.hamm@embarq.com



EMBARQ™

Economic Development News

Google and Caldwell County Initiate Sustainability Project

Greenhouse to Greenhouse: Sustainability Project Would be a First

*Caldwell County, Google and Greenhouse Gas Services
Would Turn Landfill Methane into Energy and Education Asset*

(LENOIR, N.C.)-- Sept. 16, 2008 -- A pioneering public-private project in Caldwell County may use greenhouse gas to power a research greenhouse. The initiative, approved in concept by county commissioners on Monday night, would mark the first time Google has co-developed such a project in the United States from the very inception, working through every step of the process.

Spearheaded by county officials, the proposed project would capture methane gas – one of the most potent forms of greenhouse gas emissions – at the Mount Herman landfill. Google, a champion of renewable energy, and Greenhouse Gas Services LLC (GHGS) would use the capture to generate greenhouse gas (GHG) credits. The credits would help to fund the development of a new research greenhouse at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI).

Areas of study involving the greenhouse would include new horticulture technologies, tissue culture propagation and an expansion of the horticulture curriculum. Caldwell is one of the state's top three counties in nursery agricultural production. Officials expect that the N.C. Agriculture Extension Service, which assists the nursery industry, would also benefit from the greenhouse.

"Agriculture is important to the County economy and our landscape/gardening program reflects that in its popularity as a career program. Therefore Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute is pleased to be a partner in this proposed Greenhouse to Greenhouse venture, enhancing opportunities provided through our award-winning landscape/gardening program," said Dr. Ken Boham, president of CCC&TI. "Our efforts emphasizing green technology and best practices that result in further educating our students and community, promoting advanced agriculture benefits and state-of-the-art curriculum opportunities, and providing career options for the workforce make this sustainable project beneficial to students and the County. It can also serve as an example to other institutions. This project reflects world-class companies, partnering with world-class institutions, creating world-class solutions."

The Greenhouse to Greenhouse project would follow a series of steps:

- As part of the first emission reduction co-development project in the U.S., GHGS would invest, design, build and operate the facility to capture landfill gas for more than 120,000 CO₂ equivalent tons over ten years.
- GHGS would then retire the credits on behalf of Google, which plans to add these offsets to its carbon portfolio and
- advance the goal of company wide carbon neutrality.

The captured methane gas would be flared -- destroying the greenhouse gas before it enters the atmosphere -- or converted as a power source for the new greenhouse.

"When you're sitting on a little corner of paradise, you do everything possible to protect it," said Caldwell County Commissioner Dr. John Thuss. "The Greenhouse to Greenhouse venture allows us to take back greenhouse gases that would have negatively impacted our environment. Innovation is something we take very seriously here, and execute proudly."

"Turning a problem into a solution, that is what we are trying to accomplish," said Eliah Gilfenbaum, an energy analyst at Google. "Methane gas reclamation from some of North Carolina's landfills represents an important step forward in creating clean, renewable and homegrown energy sources."

Added Mauricio Vargas, CEO of GHGS, "We believe that the co-development project with Google will serve as the model as to how organizations can reduce their carbon footprint. We're working with Google at an on-site, local level to create GHG credits that will have an effect globally."

For more information, please contact Dr. John Thuss, Caldwell County Commissioner, at (828) 493-4150.

NCEDA in the News

Summary of News Coverage from 2008 Fall Conference

The Charlotte Observer

ELECTION NEWS FROM THE CAROLINAS

By Jim Morrill

Perdue, McCrory pitch plans at economic development conference

One thing North Carolina's two main gubernatorial candidates agree on: Economic development will be a top priority of the next governor.

Republican Pat McCrory and Democrat Bev Perdue spoke to more than 230 people at the N.C. Economic Developers Association conference at the Concord Convention Center.

"As mayor and as governor, a major priority will be jobs, jobs, jobs," said McCrory, the mayor of Charlotte. "The No.1 goal of the governor is to sell the state."

McCrory outlined a 10-point plan for development, including new and traditional energy initiatives, a 50-year transportation plan and stopping what he called the "ridiculous internal competition" between regions.

He said one of his top priorities will be replacing the Yadkin River bridge on Interstate85.

Perdue, the current lieutenant governor, said she would push for development in all 100 counties. She touted her role in keeping the state's military bases open and said North Carolina should be on the forefront of developing a "green" economy with wind and solar power.

And a one-time opponent of oil drilling off the N.C. coast, she said, "Yes, there's a real role for off-shore drilling in the future."



NC GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES DEBATE IN CONCORD

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

Race and age may play a factor in the Presidential election, here, in North Carolina according to an Elon University poll. When the respondents were asked if they knew someone who wouldn't vote for a candidate who is black, 43 percent said 'no.' More than 50 percent said 'yes.'

When questioned if they knew someone who wouldn't vote for a candidate who is too old, 56 percent said 'no' and 41 percent said 'yes.'

The two major party candidates for Governor squared-off on the economy in Concord on Tuesday.

The North Carolina Economic Developers Association hosted Republican Pat McCrory and Democrat Bev Perdue at its fall conference. Both gubernatorial candidates layed out how they would help grow North Carolina's economy.

Lt. Gov. Bev Perdue (D) said: "The way we transfigure our core industries of textile and agriculture and manufacturing continues to be a real priority for me as governor. At the end of the day, North Carolina has the capacity to be the healthiest economy in America, and that's my goal for this state."

Mayor Pat McCrory (R) said: "And right now, our education system is not getting the number of qualified people to do the basic skills that are needed and we also have a 30 percent drop out rate. So, I want to tie in our education policy with our recruitment of jobs policy, and then I think we have winners for both our students and our employers, and that's a winner from which we all benefit."

McCrory said his number one priority is creating new jobs in North Carolina.

Perdue says she will continue to battle predatory lending in our state.

NCEDA in the News

Summary of News Coverage from 2008 Fall Conference

The Charlotte Observer

ALTERNATE VISIONS FOR THE STATE'S PROSPERITY

McCrory, Perdue agree, differ on economic development

It's too bad the whole state couldn't listen in Tuesday when North Carolina's gubernatorial candidates aired their ideas on how to grow the state's economy.

In some ways, it was hard to tell the Republican nominee, Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory, from the Democratic nominee, Lt. Gov. Bev Perdue.

Yet as the two hopefuls spoke – separately – and answered questions at a meeting of the state's economic developers in Concord, differences emerged. These two experienced leaders covered a lot of ground, from what they will look for in a commerce secretary to whether – and how – to streamline the environmental permitting process for business and industry. In many respects, such as the use of incentives to attract jobs, the differences are nuanced.

Yet there's a fundamental difference in their visions that voters should find insightful:

Mr. McCrory wants to grow the state's economy primarily by cutting key taxes, expanding existing businesses and strengthening transportation.

Ms. Perdue wants to focus on building knowledge in workers, tying the state's workforce to the global economy and helping small towns.

Here are some of the specific differences:

Mr. McCrory said a top objective for recruiting would be retaining jobs that are already in the state by building relationships with existing small and medium businesses.

Ms. Perdue wants to build North Carolina's connection to the global economy by pursuing businesses with ties to defense, aerospace, energy and biotechnology.

Mr. McCrory stresses cutting the state's income and corporate taxes to attract new business.

Ms. Perdue favors targeted adjustments in the corporate tax structure that would help small businesses.

Mr. McCrory wants to develop a 50-year transportation plan.

Ms. Perdue wants to revitalize small towns and cities using historic preservation and incentives to attract entrepreneurs and business professionals.

Mr. McCrory wants to marry the state's education strategy to job creation by expanding vocational education in high schools, community colleges and universities. He would tie money for that to how many employees for high-need jobs they graduate.

Ms. Perdue wants to focus education resources on job redevelopment by training workers who can constantly adapt and learn new skills.

Mr. McCrory supports development of natural gas supplies that may be off the state's coast; Ms. Perdue, who has stated varying positions on offshore drilling, favors exploration only.

These differences don't tell voters everything they need to know. But they do offer a helpful picture of how each, as governor, might go about an important part of that job: creating jobs, strengthening the state's work force and expanding its wealth.

JOB OPENINGS

ALAMANCE COUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Associate

JOB DESCRIPTION: The Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking to fill a position within the Economic Development program area of the organization. Working closely with and reporting directly to the Chamber President, the position supports the Chamber President in all aspects of providing local economic development services including – research, sales and marketing, and communications. Specific responsibilities include (but may not be limited to): administration of the economic development section of the chamber website, www.thecarolinacorridor.com, including content management, maintenance of sites and buildings inventory, assist with development of responses and proposals to project inquiries, assist with prospect/client handling, liaison with local, regional, and state allies, contact with existing industry, some special event planning, and other assigned responsibilities.

JOB REQUIREMENTS: Minimum of Bachelors degree (prefer related field) or Associates degree in combination with pertinent experience. Prefer at least two years direct economic development experience. Must be highly organized, self-motivated and directed with ability to conceptualize, plan, implement, and complete time sensitive projects, often simultaneously; ability to research and present complex information using multiple formats (oral, written, electronic) and ability to deal tactfully and effectively with diverse personalities and with confidential information. Superior computer skills are required. Executive assistance or some management experience is preferred as well as some event planning experience.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Interested candidates may submit resumes via mail or email to:

**Mac Williams,
President, Alamance County Area
Chamber of Commerce
POB 450
Burlington, NC 27216
macwilliams@alamancechamber.com.**

**If you have something you would like
posted in our newsletter, please let us know.
Provide us with the details about your
job posting, upcoming event or economic
development news and it will be
included in our next newsletter.
Send your postings to nceda@capstrat.com.**

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