



NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Memo

To: Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Devin Stephenson, President

Date: April 18, 2023

Re: Walton County EDA Office Space Lease at Chautauqua Center

The College is actively enhancing the Chautauqua Center in DeFuniak Springs to offer a student- and community-centric space. Facilities is upgrading Building 500 to offer a Raider Central, enhanced instructional spaces, more convenient student studying locations, and a variety of other light renovations to make the space more effective for instruction and testing. In late 2022, the College also welcomed former trustee Representative Shane Abbott to house his local office in Building 500.

Regarding community use, the College invited the Walton County Economic Development Alliance to bring its operations to the Chautauqua Center. Bringing the College and the Walton County EDA together is a natural fit for both organizations to better serve the students and families of Walton County. At its April meeting, the Walton County EDA Board of Directors approved the enclosed lease.

The lease proposes that EDA will occupy approximately 1000 square feet in Building 500. This portion of Building 500 is currently vacant. The space will include a dedicated entrance, lobby, private office space, open work space, restrooms, storage, and breakroom. EDA will also be welcome to share use of a conference room with the College. Included with your materials is a potential floor plan, and the final floor plan will be dependent upon Facilities final renovation plan. The EDA would move in in early June, and, in recognition of the value of the partnership, the Walton County EDA approved including the College President as a member of its board.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Trustees approves the lease between the College and the Walton County Economic Development Alliance for office space at the College's Chautauqua Center, as presented.