



# COLUMBIA COUNTY

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## COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CDBG-ED) PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013 – 11:30 A.M.

The hearing was opened to the public at 11:30 a.m. This is the second public hearing regarding the CDBG-ED awards to American Packaging Corporation (\$350,000) and Appleton Papers Inc. (\$300,000).

### Present at the meeting were:

JoAnn Wingers  
Andy Ross  
Mark A. Witt  
Vern E. Gove  
Nancy Elsing (CCEDC)

Brian Frost – Appleton Papers Inc. (Encapsys)  
Rolf Lang – American Packaging Corp.  
Lois Schepp  
Cindy Devine

The public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) Program met in the Columbia County Accounting Office to discuss the following information:

- Basic overview of the program
- Specific information regarding awards to American Packaging Corporation (\$350,000) and Appleton Papers Inc. (\$300,000)
- Types of activities eligible using CDBG funds [Economic Development]
- Potential for residential displacement

Rolf Lang of the American Packaging Corporation reported that the \$350,000 CDBG-ED funds were used to purchase equipment, creating 12 positions in 2011 and another 15 positions in 2012. An open house was held in June 2012 and was well-attended by approximately 1400-1500 people. Lang reported that the plant currently runs 5 days a week, and is expected to increase to 7 days a week.

Brian Frost of Appleton Papers Inc. (Encapsys in Portage) described the business. The company ships to countries worldwide, including Japan, Mexico, the Philippines, and Viet Nam, to name a few. Frost noted that the one of the companies they provide encapsulation services to is Proctor & Gamble, and he displayed two of their products: Downy Fabric Softener and Downy UNStopables scent pearls. The plant's expansion project began in 2007, with CDBG-ED funds of \$300,000 used to purchase equipment to maximize product capacities. The company currently employs 26 workers and expects to increase that number to 32 by the end of April.

Public hearing was closed at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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JoAnn Wingers, Committee Secretary

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Cindy Devine, Recording Secretary