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Stephen A. Heavener, Executive Director  
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Executive Director Hired  
April 1, 2004

The Board of Directors of Green River Futures, Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of Stephen Heavener to the position of executive director of the Green River Futures. Green River Futures was created and funded by the Green River City Council in 2003 in an effort to establish an aggressive economic development and business development organization focused on creating diverse, good paying jobs in Green River. Green River Futures will work closely and collaborate with the Chamber of Commerce, SWEDA, and Urban Renewal to strengthen the Green River business environment so new and existing businesses are comfortable making job creating and tax base investments in the community. Green River Futures was established because City Council had the vision to recognize the very competitive nature of business recruitment and the need to fund a proactive organization focused specifically on Green River. More than 30,000 units of local government throughout the US are chasing fewer and fewer business development opportunities. Only those communities with competitive economic development programs, full-time professional staffs, constructed industrial parks, suitable and affordable utilities, excellent interstate access, good quality of life, and business friendly local governments will be successful in diversifying their economies and Mr. Heavener will lead the effort to ensure that Green River continues to be competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Mr. Heavener, 50, a New Jersey native, is a seasoned economic development professional with 24 years of economic development, industrial real estate development, downtown development, construction management, marketing, and project financing experience. He has strong experience in business development, industrial site selection work, sales/lease negotiations, and property management for public and private sector clients.

Throughout his career, he has specialized in managing newly established or reorganized economic development entities in smaller communities throughout the US.

Mr. Heavener has worked as the chief administrative officer of local economic development organizations in New Mexico, Virginia, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New Jersey. During his recently nearly 9-year tenure in Virginia, He attracted more than \$240 million in new industrial investment to Front Royal Virginia, a community of 13,500 population, 75 miles west of Washington DC.

Mr. Heavener assembled the competitive recruitment packages, negotiated incentives, secured the sites, and managed the infrastructure construction for more than 3 million square feet of industrial manufacturing and distribution space for various Fortune 100 companies.

He has strong academic and professional credentials having earned the CED, Certified Economic Developer certification from the International Economic Development Association and EDFP, Economic Development Finance Professional certification from the National Development Council. He has earned a masters in public policy degree and bachelors degree in community development from Rutgers University in Camden New Jersey.

Mr. Heavener has also been licensed as a real estate broker from more than 30 years, combining industrial/commercial experience in New Jersey, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Virginia.

Throughout his professional career, he has demonstrated creative success in program management, budgeting, public relations, marketing, financial management, grantsmanship, lobbying, and strategic planning. He has managed multi-million dollar development budgets related to subsidized housing development, housing rehabilitation, infrastructure development, industrial park development, industrial building construction, business recruitment, and downtown development. He also has a strong historic preservation background.

Mr. Heavener has substantial experience recruiting international companies with successes with European and Asian companies.

Mr. Heavener has an excellent record designing and implementing business development, retention, and recruitment programs. Through the \$5 million business loan program that he managed in Maine, he was routinely involved with investment and business credit analysis.

He also has strong private sector development experience. Prior to entering the public sector in 1979, he worked for 7 years full-time for consulting engineers and land surveyors. His responsibilities included project design, layout and management. This direct engineering and construction layout experience has given him broad field knowledge of construction, engineering principles, and the development process.

While In Virginia, he also managed the complex redevelopment of one of the largest Superfund sites in the U.S.-Avtex Fibers. This 500-acre site is being developed over a 20-year period into a mixed-use river access, wildlife refuge, wetland preservation, recreation center, hotel conference center, and office park. The site is currently undergoing a \$100 million environmental clean up with development budgeted at an additional \$100 million after remediation. He has detailed experience negotiating with bankruptcy trustees, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, environmental insurance providers, and various corporations responsible for the clean-up. The site has been showcased by the EPA as a national demonstration for recycling Superfund sites.