

Forward Air Named As Company Adding 105 Jobs

Kristen Early | Posted: Wednesday, August 3, 2016 5:04 pm

Officials confirmed Wednesday that the Greeneville logistics company that received \$1.16 million for building improvements is the Forward Air Corporation.

The corporation received Tennessee Economic Development funds in exchange for maintaining a presence in Greeneville, adding 105 jobs and expending nearly \$4.3 million in capital investments, according to Business Development Consultant Matt Garland, of the state Department of Economic and Community Development.



Forward Air

In a separate announcement Wednesday, the Greene County Partnership tagged Garland as its next president/CEO.

Garland had been the individual to present the economic incentive proposal to the Industrial Development Board of Greeneville and Greene County in June. At that time, the state withheld that it was Forward Air receiving the grant, but revealed that it was a logistics company that already had construction on an expansion underway at the Chasan Industrial Complex on Snapps Ferry Road.

Greeneville Building Official Bert Seay told The Greeneville Sun at that time that Forward Air was the only logistics company with construction underway, but no officials would confirm the finding.

Forward Air will provide the state with its receipts after completing building renovations such as HVAC and window replacements.

Following the June approval by the IDB, the county will accept the funds from the state and forward them to the company. There is some liability to the county should the company expend funds on a non-reimbursable item, Garland said. However, he said the state has a pre-approval process to help prevent any such issues.

In Wednesday's announcement confirming the recipient as Forward Air, Gov. Bill Haslam, Community Development Commissioner Randy Boyd and other officials lauded the trucking and logistics company's decision to expand in Greeneville.

"Forward Air has been part of Tennessee's robust logistics and distribution industry for nearly three decades, and the company's continued investment speaks volumes about our great business climate," Haslam said. "Thank you to Forward Air for continuing to grow in Greeneville and Greene County."

Founded originally as Landair Transport in 1981, Forward Air has grown expanded to include an array of logistics services.

"It is always exciting news when a company chooses to expand in our state," Boyd said. "There are over 263,000 Tennesseans employed in the transportation, logistics and distribution industry with 12 percent growth expected over the next 10 years. I want to thank Forward Air for adding these jobs to this steadily growing sector."

Forward Air operates through four principle business segments: Expedited LTL, Expedited Truckload (TLX), Intermodal and Pool Distribution. The company is the 35th largest for-hire carrier in the U.S., according to information released by the state.

"For approximately 26 years, Forward Air has had the pleasure to operate in Greeneville and Greene County. This is an incredibly passionate and supportive community, and we are excited to have the opportunity to expand and grow with it," Forward Air CEO Bruce Campbell said. "We look forward to being in this area for years to come. Our employees are extremely dedicated, and we would like to thank them for their hard work and support over the years.

"We would also like to thank the governor's office, Greeneville and Greene County leadership, Tennessee Valley Authority, and all our other partners in Tennessee for their continued support of our growth in this state," Campbell added.

With this expansion, Forward Air will build-out new data center space. The facility will be completed by the fall. The Chasan Industrial Complex is located in a former Magnavox building.

"Forward Air expanding in Greene County is an announcement that the community should be very excited about," Greene County Mayor David Crum said. "It will provide the opportunity to retain and increase jobs in our community. Not only will this project provide long term stable jobs, it will provide the opportunity to breathe life into a facility that has been a landmark in our community. I want to thank all those that have been involved in this project and what it will mean for Greene County."