

## Lynchburg EDA invests \$50,000 in "Shoeless Wonders" film

Margaret Carmel Nov 2, 2016



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Shoeless Wonders

The Lynchburg Economic Development Authority pledged to invest \$50,000 in the production of the independent film "Shoeless Wonders," which is scheduled to begin shooting in Lynchburg in October 2017.

Forest-based production company Life Out Loud Films currently is raising money to make the film and is seeking to involve the Lynchburg community.

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"It's a community project, and it's really made by the community," said Sara Elizabeth Timmins, producer and creative director for Life Out Loud Films. "This collaborative model we have has done really, really well. I'd like people to be able to see that they helped make [Shoeless Wonders] happen, and it's not just some outside company making a film."

In order to contribute to the project and enter into a contract with the company, the Lynchburg EDA created a Limited Liability Company called Authority Development. The contribution to the film is through the LLC. If the film is picked up for distribution, investors have the opportunity to make a return on the investment.

EDA Secretary-Treasurer Mark Strosnider said even if the project does not make a return, the production of the film will be a help to the Lynchburg economy.

"We're doing it under the guise that if we don't get anything back from it, they've brought in jobs, and they're doing other things for the economy," he said. "If there's anything that returns back from the investment, then great, but the philosophical promotion of the EDA is why we chose to invest."

Life Out Loud Films was founded in 2008 and has produced "Wish You Well," "Lake Effects" and "Coming Through the Rye," which all have been picked up for international distribution, according to Timmins.



'Shoeless Wonders' movie kicks off