



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**Kevin McCraney (Georgia Power) presents a \$10,000 grant from the Georgia Power Foundation to Sue Cox (Covington's), Chamber Vice Chair of Business Expansion, for the Chamber's Business Incubator initiative along with Terri Lupo (Georgia Power).**

### **Georgia Power awards grant to project**

Georgia Power South Region Vice President, Terri Lupo and External Affairs Manager, Kevin McCraney presented a \$10,000 grant to Sue Cox, Vice Chair of the Chamber's Business Expansion Division at a Chamber Board of Directors meeting.

The grant, given by the Georgia Power Foundation, will be used for a feasibility analysis for the Chamber's Business Incubator Project.

The incubator project is part of the Chamber's charge to grow jobs for college and university graduates to increase the average weekly wages in Valdosta-Lowndes County.

The Business Incubator would provide services to start-up companies with high-growth potential and would be an extension of the Chamber's SEEDS Business Resource Center.

Incubator clients would pay a fee to receive business services such as counseling in accounting, marketing, and legal along with office space and facilities for client meetings and workshops.

Incubator clients would be chosen on a selective basis and would "graduate" from the Incubator once they reach set profit levels and would be required to move into other real estate in the community.