

Secretary's initials of approval QOK

Preparer's initials CCB

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND
BRUNSWICK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Joint Meeting
100 Athletic Field Road
Brunswick County Conference Center
April 17, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.**

IDA Board Meeting Minutes

The following Board Members were present:

Dr. Morris Taylor, Chairman, Red Oak District
Mrs. Jean Moody, Vice-Chair, Meherrin District
Mr. Quintin Kelly, Secretary / Treasurer, Powellton District
Mr. Floyd Moore Jr., Sturgeon District

Also Present:

Mr. Jeffrey Reed, IDA Executive Director
Ms. April Beaty, Office Manager

The following Board of Supervisors Members present:

Dr. Barbara Jarrett-Harris, Chair, Board Liaison, Totaro District
Mr. Weldon Tyler, Vice-Chair, Powellton District
Mrs. Glenda Gilliam, Red Oak District,
Mr. Reggie Owens, Meherrin District
Mr. Alfonso Seward, Sturgeon District
Ms. Leslie Weddington, County Administrator, Brunswick County
Ms. Alfreda Jarrett-Reynolds, Economic Director, Brunswick County

The following IDA Board Members were absent:

Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., At-Large
Mr. Ervin Moore Jr., At-Large
Dr. Ronald Thornhill, Totaro District
Ms. Tessie Bacon, IDA Attorney

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Glenda Gilliam gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Mrs. Jean Moody motioned, seconded by Mr. Floyd Moore to approve the board meeting agenda.

Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Welcome/Purpose – Dr. Barbara Harris, Chair, BOS

Dr. Harris welcomes the IDA Board and mentions the history of annual joint meetings for collaboration. The new IDA board members and the Executive Director are introduced. She emphasizes the importance of the meeting and the light agenda to keep the meeting brief. Dr. Taylor expresses gratitude for the joint meeting and the opportunity for collaboration.

V. County Update / Discussion

i. Ms. Leslie Weddington

Ms. Weddington provides updates on broadband expansion in the county, mentioning Empower Broadband and River Street Network. Both providers have received grant funding and are installing fiber broadband in unserved and underserved areas. Ms. Weddington introduces the “Brunswick Brief,” a monthly newsletter to keep citizens informed about board meetings and county activities.

ii. Mrs. Alfreda Reynolds

Mrs. Reynolds highlights the vision for economic development in Brunswick County, including the 58-corridor industrial park and data center development. The County is working on a purchase sale agreement with Thor Equity for a hyper-scale data center. The “ElevateHer” event for woman in business is celebrated, with testimonials from attendees. Ms. Reynolds spoke about the grand opening of the Peebles Building, with future plans for repurposing vacant buildings in downtown Lawrenceville. The County participated in the “Investing in Rural America” conference, emphasizing the importance of community partnerships. The conference provided valuable insights into growing rural communities and accessing resources.

iii. Water / Wastewater

Ms. Weddington informed the Board Members there is a tentative meeting scheduled to discuss water/wastewater and future development in Brunswick County.

iv. **BOS – Chair Comments**

Mr. Floyd Moore asked in reference to the Wyndham Hotel, why is the Elle Hotel sign still up if the County was headed in a different direction representing the old hotel? Shouldn't the sign be removed if we are going in a different direction? Mrs. Reynolds stated we operate under the direction of our board. It was not official until we had all the partners involved sign the new purchase agreement with the new group who are moving in a different direction, with the Wyndham project. And because the county still owns the property, it is at their discretion as to whether the sign comes down or whether we wait for the new sign that is pending with Wyndham with the new development team when we close around the first of June.

VI. **IDA/BOD Updates / Discussion**

i. **IDA Board Chair Comments**

Dr. Taylor expresses excitement about the progress and future plans for the County.

ii. **New Executive Director**

Mr. Reed shares his enthusiasm for working with the County and the IDA to achieve economic development goals.

iii. **Brunswick County Produce Packing Plant**

The project was awarded \$2 million by the Economic Development Authority (EDA), but we have yet to receive the funds. However, we still expect the project to continue in the near future. We are currently working on correcting the contract. According to Mr. Jordan Brandon, he hopes to get started by fall 2026 with a standing building

VII. **Adjournment**

Motion: Mrs. Jean Moody motioned, seconded by Mr. Floyd Moore, that the meeting be adjourned.

Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.

The April 17, 2025, Board of Directors meeting of the Industrial Development Authority of Brunswick County was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.