

BRUNSWICK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Meeting
100 Athletic Field Road – Brunswick County Conference Center
August 10, 2021
6:00 P.M.

IDA Board Meeting Minutes

The following Board Members were present:

Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Chair, Sturgeon District
Mr. Morris Taylor, Member, Vice-Chair, Red Oak District
Mr. George Smith, Member, Totaro District
Ms. Arnika Green, Member, Powellton District
Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., Member, At-Large
Dr. Alfonzo R. Seward, Board of Supervisors, Sturgeon District
Ms. Alfreda Jarrett Reynolds, Economic Director, Brunswick County
Ms. Leslie Weddington, Interim Brunswick County Administrator

Also present:

Mr. Michael Dotti, Business Director
Ms. Tessie Bacon, IDA Attorney
Mr. Buck Brockwell, Member, Lawrenceville Town Council
Ms. Rebecca Spengler, Alberta Vice-Mayor

The following were absent:

Mr. Ray Thomas, Member, Secretary/Treasurer, At-Large
Mr. Will Ford, Member, Meherrin District
Mayor Curt Williams, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Alberta
Mayor Don Dugger, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Brodnax
Ms. Anne Williams, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Lawrenceville

I. Call to Order

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

II. Invocation

The Chair began the meeting with the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested the following item be added to the Agenda: Item "VII. New Business Item D. Commonwealth Extension."

Motion: Mr. George Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Morris Taylor to approve the Agenda with changes made.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Citizens Comments

Buck Brockwell from Lawrenceville Town Council informed the Board that there was a Stakeholders meeting that the Board was invited to attend. He gave each of the Board members a PowerPoint presentation on the wastewater system. He said that Mr. Lynch and himself would be available to meet with IDA Board members to go over the details of the system.

V. Approval of Minutes

Regularly Scheduled Meeting – July 13, 2021

Motion: Dr. Arthur Jarrett moved, seconded by Mr. Morris Taylor to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 regularly Scheduled Board meeting.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

VI. Consent Agenda

- Cash Register July 2021
- Checkbook Register July 2021

Motion: Dr. Arthur Jarrett moved, seconded by Mr. George Smith to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

VII. New Business

A. Updating of Office

The Business Director said that there is money in the budget to update the office furniture and to paint the IDA office. The Business Director doesn't expect the cost to exceed \$35,000.

Motion: Dr. Arthur Jarrett moved, seconded by Mr. Morris Taylor to utilize budgeted office supply funds to update the office furniture and paint at the IDA office located at 116 West Hicks Street.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

B. Teacher Gifts – Moving Forward

The Business Director said that the IDA presented gifts to the new teachers of BCPS. The gifts contained a \$20 Pops Gift Certificate, a \$50 Walmart Gift card, and a copy of the James Solomon Russell Autobiography. The Business Director said he would like to extend the same gifts to the new teachers at Brunswick Academy.

Motion: Mr. Morris Taylor moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett to approve utilizing budgeted community development funds to purchase welcome gifts for the new teachers at BCPS and Brunswick Academy.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

C. Car Port

The Business Director informed the Board that the carport in the back parking lot is owned by the IDA. The Town of Lawrenceville is in need of a carport for their new parking lot. The Town of Lawrenceville wrote a letter to the IDA requesting the carport for their new parking lot.

Motion: Mr. Morris Taylor moved, seconded by Ms. Arnika Green to allow Lawrenceville to take possession of the unused carport for their new municipal parking lot at their expense.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

D. Commonwealth Extension

The Business Director said that the next contract extension for Commonwealth Preservation Group is due. Commonwealth Preservation Group has helped the IDA obtain multiple grants and with historic expansions.

Motion: Dr. Arthur Jarrett moved, seconded by Ms. Arnika Green that the IDA move forward with the Commonwealth Preservation Group contract extension.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

VIII. Old Business

A. Virginia Outdoor Federation (VOF) Grant Next Steps

The Business Director said the IDA received the Virginia Outdoor Federation Grant for \$25,000, the goal is to provide playground equipment. The IDA has two years to use this grant and has been working with Lawrenceville Town Council on specifics. There were over 40 children from BCPS that wrote in support of a playground. Delegate Tyler, Frank Ruff, Commonwealth Preservation Group, as well as County and Town Government have all helped with making this grant a reality.

B. Dominion Reimbursement

The Business Director informed the Board that the week after the Atlantic Coast Pipeline was cancelled he contacted Dominion for reimbursement on money the IDA spent for preparing for the pipeline. Dominion has agreed to write a check for \$92,848 in the form of a settlement.

Motion: Mr. Morris Taylor moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett to allow the Chair to sign the agreement giving the IDA reimbursement from Dominion Energy in the amount of \$92,848.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

C. 139 Hicks (Former Town & Country)

The Business Director said that the \$50,000 Brownfield Grant has been applied for. The grant will help pay to remove environmental damage, it will cover almost 50% of the approved \$120,000 for repairs of the new dance studio to be located at 139 Hicks Street.

IX. Directors Report

The IDA continues to be very busy. Grant programs and new funding opportunities continue to be coming in almost every day. Both the State and the Federal government are working hard to reopen the economy during the continuing COVID pandemic. We continue to work closely with Southside Planning District and our partners to create an advantage for new and existing businesses.

I continue to participate with The Small Business Recovery Assistance Fund working group. To date we have helped 10 businesses receive much needed grant money. There have been 12 completed applications and we have spoken to 42 separate businesses. With the latest approval of utility help, the volume of calls has increased significantly. There is still over \$350,000 available in the fund and businesses can still apply. We found that the paperwork could be daunting; in answer to this, we have created a Thursday workshop at the IDA office to help with the paperwork. We welcome anyone looking for help or information to please contact us. This help is by appointment.

Supervisor Zubrod and I, along with regional stakeholders met with Congressman Good to discuss internet and specifically Broadband access. Frankly, the issue continues to be the risk/reward for providers to spend the money to make high-speed internet available. I will continue to press the issue at every opportunity.

The four front IDA parking lot lights are repaired. Delay was caused by time required to get the correct bulbs. The new bulbs are LED and should last longer. Painting to follow, still waiting for globe for the one back light. Seven weeks to go.

Grand Openings.

Kindred Transportation	July 30	Non-emergency medical transport
Power of One	July 31	Community Services

The IDA did not provide direct assistance to these businesses. However, along with our Local and County partners we continue to create an environment conducive to the growth of existing businesses and the birth of new ones.

Community Development and Support

- Sponsor for National Night Out
- Welcoming Gifts and message to the new teachers at BCPS.
- I spoke at the Opening for Power of One.

- We provide space for Community Center Board meetings

Prospects

I am currently working with nine prospects. These prospects range from small retail operations to very large businesses. Our biggest issue is available space. As soon as we acquire a building and get it ready, it is utilized. This is a good problem to have, but it is still a problem.

I encourage private building owners anywhere in the County to contact me. We would love to be of assistance and offer guidance. One upcoming business completed their DEQ applications. Announcements coming.

Grant Writer

I continue to research the Grant Writer position and have applied for a grant that will actually help pay part of the salary. Many grants have an administrative component, which will also help fund the position. We are receiving approximately \$4.00 back in grants for every \$1.00 we spend on grant writing.

Grants

Applied for \$100,000 Resurgence Grant-Funding for Creation of Merchants Assistance Program

Awarded \$35,000 The Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) to help with Architectural and Engineering work for Produce Project

Awarded \$25,000 Virginia Outdoor Federation Grant to help with Lawrenceville Playground

Awarded \$50,000 Brownfield Grant for Sledge & Barkley

Applied for \$50,000 Brownfield Grant for 139 Hicks Street (Town & Country)

Applied for \$800,000 Tobacco Commission Grant for Project X

Lawrenceville Historic District Update

On August 5, 2021, the Department of Historic resources approved the updated documentation. Buildings built up to 1975 may now qualify for various historic tax credits and other funding sources. This means citizens and businesses in the affected area are eligible for various forms of building relief. We will be providing updated public information and maps on our website. This important project was funded by the IDA Board in an equal financial partnership with Lawrenceville Town Council.

*VIRGINIA, BRUNSWICK COUNTY,
Lawrenceville Historic District (Additional Documentation).*

*Roughly bounded by West 6th Ave., Maria St., Lawrenceville town line, Rose Cr., and Thomas St.
Lawrenceville vicinity, AD00000313.
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED, 8/5/2021*

X. Committee Reports

None

XI. IDA Board of Directors Comments

Dr. Arthur Jarrett thanked the Board and the Business Director for keeping him informed while he was on vacation.

Mr. George Smith thanked the Business Director for adding Business names to Board documents.

The IDA Chair told the Board that the sandwiches tonight were purchased from Lake Country General Store.

XII. Closed Session

MOTION TO CONVENE CLOSED MEETING

August 10, 2021

Mr. Morris Taylor moved, seconded by Ms. Arnika Green that this Board convene in closed meeting to discuss the following:

As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (a)(1), a personnel matter involving salary or other compensation of a specific employee

As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (a)(3), acquisition of real property for a public purpose.

As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a)(5), discussion concerning a prospective business or industry.

CERTIFICATION AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Mr. Morris Taylor and seconded by Ms. Arnika Green that the Board certify that to the best of each Board member's knowledge:

- (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open session requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed session to which this certification applies, and

- (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Mr. George Smith, Mr. Morris Taylor, Ms. Arnika Green.

Voting Nay: None

Absent During Vote: Mr. Ray Thomas, Mr. Will Ford

Absent During Meeting: Mr. Ray Thomas, Mr. Will Ford

XIII. Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Morris Taylor moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett that the meeting be adjourned.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

The August 10, 2021 Board of Directors meeting of the Brunswick County Industrial Development Authority was adjourned at 7:00p.m.