

BRUNSWICK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Meeting

100 Athletic Field Road – Brunswick County Conference Center

January 12, 2021

6:00 P.M.

IDA Board Meeting Minutes

The following Board Members were present:

Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Member, Chair, Sturgeon District
Mr. Morris Taylor, Member, Vice-Chair, Red Oak District
Mr. Ray Thomas, Member, Secretary/Treasurer, At-Large
Mr. George Smith, Member, Totaro District
Mr. Will Ford, Member, Meherrin District
Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., Member, At-Large
Ms. Arnika Green, Member, Powellton District

Also present:

Mr. Michael Dotti, Business Director
Dr. Alfonzo R. Seward, Board of Supervisors, Sturgeon District
Ms. Alfreda Jarrett Reynolds, Economic Director, Brunswick County
Ms. Tessie Bacon, IDA Attorney

The following were absent:

Mr. Buck Brockwell, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Lawrenceville
Dr. Charlette Woolridge, County Administrator Ex-Officio Member
Mayor Curt Williams, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Alberta
Mayor Don Dugger, Ex-Officio Member, Town of Brodnax

I. Call to Order

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

II. Invocation

The Chair began the meeting with requesting Dr. Ronald Thornhill to give the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

III. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested the following items be added to the Agenda: Item “VI. Finance.”
The Chair also requested the following items be removed from the Agenda: Item “IX. D. ODO Farms.”

Motion: Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett to approve the Agenda with the changes as requested.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Essay Award Presentation

The IDA hosted a “What does the 300th Anniversary of Brunswick County mean to you?” essay contest. At tonight’s meeting the first and second place winners were presented with their awards. The IDA Chair read the names of all those who participated in the contest and will receive a gift from the IDA this week. The essays entered will be later published in the Brunswick Times Gazette. Those who participated are as listed below.

- 1st Place Winner – Sherilya Hicks \$750.00
- 2nd Place Winner – Cabre Walker \$500.00
- Amani Pearson
- Daja Walkins
- Betzaid Rubio-Rangel
- Zakiyah Alexander
- Amari-ya Hubbard
- Jonathan Noah Sadler
- Rylee Moore
- Dube Ruby Gutierrez Trejo
- Darreon Barner
- Tyler Blanton
- Jadin Peebles
- Jalauni Seward
- Carlicia Whitaker
- Wendy Rubio-Rangel

The IDA Chair thanked all the students for their essays and putting forth the time and effort toward the contest. She also said what a great night it is for the history of Dr. James Solomon Russell and the opening of the St. Paul’s College Museum and Archives. The museum has reprinted Dr. Russell’s autobiography and in celebration of the museum and the 300th anniversary of Brunswick County everyone in attendance of the meeting gets a copy of the autobiography.

V. Citizens Comments

No Citizen Comments

VI. Approval of Minutes

Regularly Scheduled Meeting – December 1, 2020

Motion: Mr. George Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Ray Thomas to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 Regularly Scheduled Board meeting and the Finance reports.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

VII. Consent Agenda

Approved motion under the minutes.

VIII. New Business

A. St. Paul’s Museum

The museum was covered under the essay presentation.

B. RRR Sale

The Business Director said that the IDA sold owned interest of the RRR park in Broadnax. More information to come later.

C. Covid Grant

The Business Director told the Board that the IDA has applied for a COVID grant to cover safety equipment, cleanings, and technology/communication equipment needed to operate under social distancing.

D. Phone System

The Business Director said that the phone systems in the IDA office are out of date and don't allow for modern communication abilities. The IDA has discussed options with Shentel with a 36 month and a 60 month option presented. The Business Director suggested the 36 month option with the possibility of cheaper options presenting themselves in the future.

Motion: Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Will Ford to approve the 36 month phone contract with Shentel for \$700 a month.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

E. IDA Flooring

The Business Director told the Board that the carpets in the IDA office are in non-repairable shape and cannot be cleaning. The IDA is receiving multiple quotes to get the carpet replaced and does not want to exceed \$5,000.

Motion: Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Ms. Arnika Green to approve the replacement of the floors in the IDA office up to \$5,000.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

F. Statement of Economic Interest Forms

The IDA Chair told the Board that the Statement of Economic Interest Forms need to be completed by February 1, 2021.

IX. Old Business

A. Kass Equipment

The Business Director said that he talked with Southside Planning and they have asked the IDA for help on the property. The IDA is securing the Kass equipment for future projects. Mr. Thomas asked if the Kass building has been winterized. Mr. Dotti said he would mention it again to the County.

B. St. Paul's Timber

Mr. Will Ford said that he would volunteer his time to get the timber at St. Paul's cruised.

C. Pop's Update

The Business Director said that Pop's is continuing to move forward. He said they have had some staff changes.

D. SAAD Development

The Business Director told the Board that on January 26th SAAD will be closing on the 58 Park property. Another exciting project in the works to bring 14-15 jobs to the County, more information to come soon.

X. Directors Report

We are working on the 21/20 Budget with Stahl Accounting. Budget from my end is 90% complete. I will meet with the Finance Committee and bring the initial draft to the board in the February Meeting.

The biggest part of the new financial reporting system is updating the values of the current properties and amending the report to update. We have made purchases and sales and will make sure the numbers are correct and correctly reported.

Numerous projects are ongoing. Alfreda Reynolds and I continue to work together. We meet or speak many times each day. We are coordinating our activities as much as possible. Communication and cooperation is improved and working

As a result of the Roanoke River Park we were able to deposit \$479,000. into the IDA account to be used for more economic growth. This money is the direct result of past boards planning for the future. Down the road, we will see tax revenues from the project.

I am currently reviewing the website. We are updating the office.

Thanks for your support, the IDA Board did great work in 2020. 2021 will be better from an economic standpoint.

XI. Committee Reports

- A. Personnel/Executive** – No Report
- B. Finance** – No Report
- C. Property/Land Management** – No Report
- D. Prospect** – No Report

The IDA Chair told the Board to expect some communication from herself, Mr. Dotti, or Ms. Taylor as to how the IDA will proceed in 2021 on Committee Meetings.

XII. IDA Board of Directors Comments

The IDA Chair apologized for anything she might have misstated. She said the her uncle passed away and his funeral was today, this caused her to be a little unsettled

The Business Director said that he would like to thank Dr. Woolridge and the County for allowing the IDA to have the Board meeting in the Conference Center. He also said that Ms. Melissa Boucher is doing very well and that she misses everyone.

Mr. Ray Thomas said that the Lawrenceville Rotary Club is sponsoring a Blood Drive on January 21, 2021. He said he has flyers and there is a need for donations.

Dr. Arthur Jarrett said that the essay contest was a great idea and that the IDA needs to sponsor more events like that to include the young minds of Brunswick County in the future. He commended the high school, the leadership, the teachers, and Mr. Ray Thomas for coming up with the idea.

XIII. Closed Session

MOTION TO CONVENE CLOSED MEETING

January 12, 2021

Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Will Ford that this Board convene in closed meeting to discuss the following:

As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a)(8), Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel

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

As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (a)(1), a personnel matter

CERTIFICATION AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Mr. Ray Thomas and seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett 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, Mr. Ray Thomas, Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Mr. Will Ford, Mr. Morris Taylor, Mr. George Smith, Ms. Arnika Green.

Voting Nay: None

Absent During Vote: None

Absent During Meeting: None

Attorney Tessie Bacon said that the IDA Board went into Closed Session to address Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a)(8), Consultation with legal counsel (a)(5), discussion concerning a prospective business or industry (a)(1), a personnel matter.

Motion: Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett to adopt what Attorney Tessie Bacon said.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

Motion: Mr. Ray Thomas moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur Jarrett to amend the incentive agreement made with Pop's and authorize our attorney to prepare the amending agreements and also authorize the Chair to sign the agreements with all the instruments that effect the intent of that amendment.

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

XIV. Adjournment

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

Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.

The January 12, 2021 Board of Directors meeting of the Brunswick County Industrial Development Authority was adjourned at 7:15p.m.