

Secretary's initials of approval



Preparer's initials



**BRUNSWICK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

100 Athletic Field Road  
Brunswick County Conference Center  
December 12, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

**IDA Board Meeting Minutes**

**The following Board Members were present:**

Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Chair, Sturgeon District  
Mr. Morris Taylor, Vice-Chair, Red Oak District  
Mr. Ray Thomas, Secretary / Treasurer, At-Large  
Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., At-Large  
Mr. Quintin Kelly, Powellton District  
Mrs. Jean Moody, Meherrin District  
Dr. Ronald Thornhill, Totaro District

**Also Present:**

Ms. Tessie Bacon, IDA Attorney  
Dr. Alfonzo Seward, Brunswick County Board of Supervisors, Chair, Sturgeon District  
Dr. Barbara Jarrett-Harris, Board Liaison, Brunswick County Board of Supervisors, Totaro District  
Ms. Alfreda Jarrett-Reynolds, Economic Director, Brunswick County  
Ms. Leslie Weddington, County Administrator, Brunswick County  
Mayor Don Dugger, Town of Brodnax Mayor  
Ms. Beverly Ambs, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce  
Ms. Sylvia Allen, Brunswick Gazette, Reporter  
Ms. Anne Williams, Town Council, Town of Lawrenceville  
Mr. Erwin Moore, Citizen

**The following were absent:**

Ms. Lawanda Tatum, Mayor of Lawrenceville  
Ms. Robert Hayes, Mayor of Alberta

**I. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr. gave the Invocation

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Dr. Ronald Thornhill motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jean Moody to approve the Agenda  
**Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.**

#### IV. Approval of Minutes

- Regularly Scheduled Meeting November 14, 2023 Minutes
- Emergency Special Call Board Meeting Minutes-November 17,2023
- Special Call Board Meeting Minutes-November 28,2023
- November Motions

**Motion:** Mrs. Jean Moody motioned, seconded by Dr. Ronald Thornhill to approve the regularly scheduled meeting November 14<sup>th</sup> Minutes, Emergency Special Call Board Meeting Minutes on November 17<sup>th</sup>, Special Call Board Meeting Minutes on November 28<sup>th</sup> & Novembers Motions.

**Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.**

#### V. Consent Agenda

- **October 2023 Financial Statement**

**Motion:** Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr. motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jean Moody to approve the October 2023 Consent Agenda.

**Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.**

#### VI. Project Directors Report

Sledge & Barkley-Cherie Nielsen, Project Associate Director for the Brunswick County IDA, stated we are currently waiting on approval of the SEID Grant, which may be delayed by the Governor's Office. The WPA Architects came down for a site visit on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, to finalize the plans and we have yet to receive the final drawings. The roofing on both buildings and rotting joists have been completely replaced. The lumber for the flooring have been delivered and the third floor structural work will begin next week.

VTech/Turntable Park-Mrs. Nielsen and Mr. Quintin Kelly, IDA Board Member, meet with the Virginia Tech Design Team on December 6<sup>th</sup>, regarding potential new buildings vs. using the existing building at the park. At this moment we are waiting to hear from the Felton Brothers regarding the intentions on the owned building on the property as well as a closing date.

Mrs. Tessie Bacon, IDA Attorney, stated she is working on getting an integrated contract together to purchase a piece of the turntable park.

Greenhouse-Mrs. Cherie Nielsen is working with Southside Planning in writing the State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) Grant. The deadline for this grant has been extended to Mid-January. She is also working on getting the Virginia Passenger Railway Association agreement procured with the IDA Attorney. Dewberry's engineers are looking for an alternative route to site, which we will not have to extend the railway crossing agreement. Dewberry is also working to provide permit and construction documents. Mrs. Nielsen is currently looking for contracting timber companies to clear the land.

ODO Project- On December 6<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Nielsen meet with Ann Taylor of SPDC and Shawn of Dewberry to discuss the current bids, concerns from local farmers in the delaying of the project, moving forward after the VDAC approval, concerned prices of material for the project and that Mr. Jordan Brandon outreach to commercial farmers interested in partnering and use of the facility and stated that he can employ up to 30 full time employees.

#### VII. Citizens Comments

*(Citizens are allotted three (3) minutes to speak)*

Ms. Anne Williams addressed the Board and stated that the Former Executive Director advertise the Project Associate Director Job position in only in the Mecklenburg Sun. He did not advertise the job in accordance to the EEOC regulations in a paper of record, in the local newspaper. Ms. Williams states this is significant because we have 65% minority in the County of Brunswick and if you are going to pursue federal contract and you're cited for

violation of EEOC procedure you cannot do federal work. Ms. Williams stated she intends to pursue this to the utmost as far up the chain of command on this EEOC regulations.

Ms. Williams spoke about the Turntable project, she stated, "I don't understand why this park is not going before the County Board of Tourism and Visitor". Ms. Williams stated the Turntable Park is in the Town of Lawrenceville and this specific project was originally funded \$417,000 and was supposed to be to replace the turntable. Most of the money went to fix the Southern States Building and the money that was spent to unleash the turntable was never done. Ms. Williams ask, why is the IDA involved in this Turntable Project, when the IDA function is supposed to be industrial development?

## VIII. New Business

### i. Southside Planning District-Grant Writing MOU

*Nothing to Report*

### ii. Authorize Administrative access to First Citizen Bank & Approval for IDA FCB Visa Card & Authorize signers.

The Chair ask the Board to approve April Beaty Authorized Administrative access to First Citizen Bank accounts and to approve Ms. Beaty to have an IDA FCB Visa Card as the authorized signer.

**Motion:** Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr. motioned, seconded by Mr. Quintin Kelly to approve April Beaty to have access to the First Citizen Bank accounts and an IDA First Citizen Bank Visa Card as the authorized signer.

**Upon vote of those present motion was unanimously carried.**

### iii. Brunswick Academy

The Chair shared with the Board that Brunswick Academy requested permission for temporary easement to logging deck on the property adjacent to Brunswick Academy. The school is planning to build a practice athletic field on their campus and will need access to part of the IDA property. Also stated in the request any damages done due to the uses of the logging deck they will it make sure it is corrected.

## IX. IDA Board of Directors Comments

In responds to Ms. Anne Williams comment, Mr. Quintin Kelly stated, the Code of Virginia Title 15.2.2 Counties, Cities and Towns Chapter 49. Industrial Development and Revenue Bond Act defines the IDA's authority which empowers the IDA to purchase and develop the Turntable Park. There are 21 code sections in Chapter 49 governing the IDA's authority. VA Code Section 15.2-4901 defines the purpose of the chapter. The IDA can do anything from business, industrial, recreational, education & medical to improve the life of citizens in the county. There was a zoom call with Virginia Tech Design Department on the park and the County's Tourism Department was a part of the zoom call.

Dr. Ronald Thornhill commented, he wanted to commend April for doing a phenomenal job, she stepped up, didn't ask a lot of questions, she did what's required, and he wanted to let her know publicly that he appreciated all that Ms. Beaty has done recently. Mrs. Jean Moody, also stated she appreciated Ms. Beaty, as well as Dr. Arthur Jarrett, stated he also agreed with Mrs. Moody and Dr. Thornhill.

The Chair, express her appreciation for Ms. Beaty and bountiful thanks as well. The meals for tonight were from Charr'd LLC.

**X. Closed Session**

**MOTION TO CONVENE CLOSED MEETING**

**December 12, 2023**

Mr. Ray Thomas motioned, seconded by Mr. Morris Taylor that The Industrial Development Authority of Brunswick County Virginia Board Members convene in closed meeting to discuss the following:

- i. As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a) (1), a personnel matter involving, demotion, discipline or resignation of specific employee
- ii. As permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a) (8), a matter involving consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body responding specific legal matters required the provision of legal advice.

**CERTIFICATION AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Ray Thomas 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:** Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Chair, Sturgeon District | Mr. Morris Taylor, Vice-Chair, Red Oak District  
Mr. Ray Thomas, Secretary / Treasurer, At-Large | Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., At-Large | Mr. Quintin Kelly, Powellton District  
Mrs. Jean Moody, Meherrin District | Dr. Ronald Thornhill, Totaro District

**Voting Aye:** Ms. Gloria Menyweather-Woods, Chair, Sturgeon District | Mr. Morris Taylor, Vice-Chair, Red Oak District  
Mr. Ray Thomas, Secretary / Treasurer, At-Large | Dr. Arthur Jarrett Jr., At-Large | Mr. Quintin Kelly, Powellton District  
Mrs. Jean Moody, Meherrin District | Dr. Ronald Thornhill, Totaro District

**Voting Nay:**

**Absent During Vote:**

**Absent During Meeting:**

**Motion:** Mr. Ray Thomas motioned, seconded by Mr. Quintin Kelly, to accept the resignation of Melissa Boucher.

**Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion:** Mr. Ray Thomas motioned, seconded by Quintin Kelly, to pursue a memorandum of understanding with County of Brunswick for a project consultation.

**Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.**

**XI. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Mr. Ray Thomas motioned, seconded by Mr. Quintin Kelly that the meeting be adjourned.

**Upon vote of those present the motion was unanimously carried.**

The December 12, 2023, Board of Directors meeting of the Industrial Development Authority of Brunswick County was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.