

Meeting Minutes  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
April 24, 2018

At a regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority of York County, Virginia, held on April 24, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the County Administration Center, 224 Ballard Street, Yorktown, Virginia, those present were:

R. Anderson Moberg, Chairman  
Steven A. Meade, Vice-Chairman  
Vernard E. Lockwood, II, Treasurer  
Tom Anderson  
John F. Biagas  
H. Junior Coxton

Others present:

Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator  
James Barnett, County Attorney  
James W. Noel, Jr., Assistant Secretary and Director of Economic Development  
Melissa M. Davidson, Assistant Director of Economic Development  
Deborah L. Gardner, Economic Development Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chairman Moberg.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established with all members present with the exception of Harvey Weinstein.

**CITIZENS' COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**GREATER WILLIAMSBURG PARTNEWSHIP (GWP) UPDATE**

Mr. Noel provided an update on the GWP and stated the Board of Directors has decided to hire a new full-time executive director (the current executive director is part-time and does not reside in the

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area). He further stated that, in order to make this change financially feasible, the Board decided the new executive director will oversee The Launchpad in addition to the GWP. The job description is being prepared and will soon go out as an employment opportunity. Mr. Noel stated combining directors will save money and eliminate fundraising overlap, noting it will be a more efficient and effective way to move forward. He mentioned that he has shared this information with the Historic Triangle Collaborative. Mr. Noel reported the GWP is working with a company called Pegasus, who focuses on small-to-medium businesses in Germany, to help develop a relationship between our community and the communities overseas to foster foreign direct investment.

## OLD BUSINESS

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Davidson briefed the Authority on Workforce Development initiatives (WF) and mentioned two EDA members are working with the York County Chamber's executive board to discuss these issues. She stated the York County School Superintendent spoke on WFD problems at the E3 meeting and it was determined there should be more involvement with the business community. Ms. Davidson stated the business community needed to come forward and offer internships or apprenticeships, and a venue for these programs. She noted a task force has been put together with representatives from the Office of Economic Development, the Economic Development Authority, the School Division, the Chamber and the business community. She reported that by year 2021, the School Division's goal is for every student graduating to have either a work opportunity or an apprenticeship-type experience.

## FINANCIALS

The Chairman duly noted the receipt of the February 2018 Treasurer and Financial Reports.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Biagas moved that the minutes of the March 27, 2018 Regular Meeting be approved.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (5) Biagas, Coxton, Lockwood, Meade, Moberg  
Nay: (0)  
Abstention: (1) Anderson

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**CLOSED MEETING**

The Chairman noted that it was in his judgment appropriate for the Authority to enter into closed meeting as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the purpose of Public Property and Prospective Business under Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and (A)(5).

Mr. Coxton moved that the Authority enter into a closed meeting for the aforesaid purpose(s) and that the Authority deemed it necessary, as specified by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, that Neil Morgan, Jim Barnett, Jim Noel, Melissa Davidson, Debbie Gardner and Justin Atkins be present during the closed meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and approved.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (6) Biagas, Coxton, Lockwood, Meade, Anderson, Moberg  
Nay: (0)

The Authority entered into closed meeting at 4:15 p.m.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING**

The Authority returned to open meeting at 5:18 p.m.

**ROLL CALL VOTE CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 2.2-3711.1 D OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA**

Mr. Meade moved that, to the best of each members' knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements specified under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed in closed meeting, and that only such public business matters related to Public Property and Prospective Business under Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and (A)(5) were discussed during closed meeting. Mr. Anderson seconded this motion.

The Chairman stated that if any member of the Authority believed that there was a departure from the requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, that the member was required by law to state his objection prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that in his judgment had taken place. No such objection was raised. The roll call was as follows:

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (6) Coxton, Lockwood, Meade, Anderson, Biagas, Moberg  
Nay: (0)

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Upon returning from Closed Meeting, Mr. Meade moved to approve up to \$10,000 from the Capital Fund for consultant costs to analyze the proposed project for the Williamsburg Pottery.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (6) Lockwood, Meade, Anderson, Biagas, Coxton, Moberg  
Nay: (0)

Mr. Noel reminded the EDA it had previously authorized the sewer design for 7120-7124 George Washington Memorial Highway. He stated the estimated cost was \$18,000 to extend sewer to the property and recommended the EDA consider authorizing up to \$20,000 for the sewer extension.

Mr. Lockwood moved to approve \$20,000 from the Capital Fund for the extension of sewer service to 7120-7124 George Washington Memorial Highway.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (6) Meade, Anderson, Biagas, Coxton, Lockwood, Moberg  
Nay: (0)

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS**

Mr. Morgan thanked those in attendance at Mark Carter's retirement celebration. He reported on the items for the Board of Supervisors' work session next week that will include briefing the board on the need to have a Comprehensive Plan update that is required by law to be completed every five years. He explained that a steering committee would be formed to suggest ideas for the Comp Plan. Mr. Morgan reported that the school's budget has been approved and the County's budget is set to be approved at the May 1<sup>st</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting. He noted the budget process had been smooth, with the exception of the Board of Equalization hearings that resulted in rolling back the valuation of Plains Terminal, which is the number two taxpayer in the County. Mr. Morgan stated this decision impacted more than one-half of the new revenue for the FY19 budget, or \$1.4 million. He explained if SB942 is finalized, he expects to recover from the financial blow, but stated the yearly \$250K contribution to the EDA would be at a risk if it did not pass.

### **DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMENTS**

Mr. Noel reported that the grant for the formation of the Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (RIFA) has been approved, noting that all of the Peninsula localities including Gloucester are participating. He stated the Fiscal Agent Agreement with the Virginia Peninsula Chamber

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Foundation has been executed and he is preparing the RFP for legal services to assist the seven localities forming the RIFA. Mr. Noel explained that the RIFA will be a tremendous vehicle for future regional economic development projects. Mr. Noel will be meeting with the owner of Big Top Entertainment and York River Commerce Park Owners Association to discuss Big Top using the stormwater drainage pond in the York River Commerce Park. He then mentioned that he and Mr. Meade will meet with Alewerks concerning their growth issues in the Ewell Industrial Park.

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMENTS**

Ms. Davidson announced the upcoming annual joint Business Appreciation Event with Williamsburg and James City County will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Revolution Golf. She mentioned this year is being hosted by Williamsburg and the invitations will be going out soon and asked the members to mark their calendars.

**MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

None.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

(SEAL)

  
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R. Anderson Moberg, Chairman

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James W. Noel, Jr., Assistant Secretary