

**King and Queen County
Industrial Development Authority/
Economic Development Authority
Minutes
May 6, 2021**

A regular meeting of the King and Queen County Industrial Development Authority/Economic Development Authority was held May 6, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the General District Court Hearing Room in the Courts and Administration Building.

Members Present: George Longest, Robert Fraser, Jesse Holmes, Plunard Robinson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Longest opened the meeting at 8:30.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Fraser and seconded by Ms. Robinson to approve the December 3, 2020 and March 4, 2021 minutes as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Ammons provided a copy of the financial report updated to include the last several months. It incorporates the EDA's participation in the CARES funded B2B business reimbursement program, payment of invoices for repairs to the Farmer's Market building and ongoing routine expenses.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Telework Center Progress** – Mr. Swartzwelder advised that this project continues to evolve. Riverstreet has obtained permits to place a fiber HUB building on the property and it has been incorporated into the site plans for the telecenter. The County has hired Neal Barber to apply for grants totaling \$1.5 million through EDA and VDHCD for the telehealth portion of the project. Full commitment for the telehealth portion has been obtained.
- B. Apex Pallets** – Mr. Miller advised there is no new information on this inquiry.
- C. Solar Project** – Mr. Swartzwelder advised that there is no current activity on this project. Dominion has not committed to buy the project but it may still happen. If it does, the project will move forward.
- D. Fulcrum Expansion** – Mr. Swartzwelder advised that they have obtained the necessary environmental permits but have not begun construction. Members asked if they could have meeting at the facility. Mr. Swartzwelder will reach out and try to coordinate for a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. King & Queen Schools Request** – Mr. Miller advised that the school division has asked him to sit on their CTE Advisory Committee. Members agreed it was not an issue.

- B. VA Agriculture Development Officers Meeting**– Mr. Miller advised that he attended this meeting and the main focus is on use of tribal lands and the VA Food Access Fund.
- C. Rappahannock Tribe & New VDACS Programs** - Mr. Swartzwelder advised that the County has currently ‘run afoul’ of the leadership of the Rappahannock Tribe regarding the tribes request for a letter of support for their low-income housing study grant application. He explained the county position (which is the same as the EDA) that no support can be given until more information regarding the request is received, they are not willing to support any project that they do not know the details of what they are being asked to support.
- D. Grant Information Request** – Mr. Miller advised that recently had an inquiry from a citizen who purchased a farm in the county and is requesting information on and grants available for farming, brewery and meadery. He will keep the EDA informed as he communicates with them.
- E. Premier Tech Request** – Mr. Miller advised that Premier has not met their employment numbers required for the COF funds. They are working with Kim Ellett, VEDP, on obtaining an extension. They have sited COVID restrictions as part of the reason why they have not been able to meet these requirements. They have surpassed the capital investment requirements.
- F. SynerGen Request** – Mr. Miller advised that this solar generation company has reached out to him regarding purchase of the Route 33 property owned by the EDA. Mr. Miller has informed them that the EDA is not interested in sale for this use. Mr. Swartzwelder commented that the County would have no interest in working with any company for future solar projects at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Swartzwelder provided an update on the following items:

- The Fiber to the Home project is slowly moving forward and they are catching up from the delays due to winter weather. The lower end of the county should start seeing hook ups in November. State (VATI) funding for Phase II of the project has been approved and is moving forward to provide service for the upper end of the county.
- The County’s FY22 budget includes capital funding for two new Emergency Services facilities, one in the court house area and one at Marriott School.
- The Board of Supervisors is moving forward with a project at King and Queen Elementary School that incorporates the ‘renovate and replace’ model that will retain the structurally sound portions of the existing facility and remove, replace and expand portions that are not salvageable. This project should get underway next spring.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Jesse Holmes, Secretary