

**King and Queen County
Industrial Development Authority/
Economic Development Authority
Minutes
August 5, 2021**

A regular meeting of the King and Queen County Industrial Development Authority/Economic Development Authority was held August 5, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the General District Court Hearing Room in the Courts and Administration Building.

Members Present: George Longest, Jesse Holmes, Plunard Robinson, Paul Bennett, Tommy Adkins

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Longest opened the meeting at 8:30 and introduced new member Tommy Adkins from the Shanghai District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Holmes to approve the June 3, 2021 minutes as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Ammons provided updated financials containing fiscal year end information. She advised that the county audit is underway which includes the EDA's financials.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Telework Center Progress – Ms. Ammons advised that the County has applied for state and federal grants to assist with funding of this project. Mr. Swartzwelder has been working with Lewie Lawrence from the PDC and Neil Barber on completing the grant applications.
- B. Rappahannock Tribe Request – Mr. Swartzwelder and Mr. Miller met with Chief Ann Richardson. It was a good and productive meeting. Mr. Miller has sent the requested letter of support for their projects.
- C. REC Marketing Request – Mr. Miller has sent the plat of the EDA property on Rt. 33. He has not heard back from them yet.
- D. Other Items brought up by members – Ms. Robinson advised that she attended the National Night Out that was sponsored by the Sheriff's office. The event was held at the Farmer's Market and was very well attended. Mr. Longest asked if a future meeting had been scheduled at Fulcrum. Mr. Miller advised that he is still working on this.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Business Visit to Premier Tech - Mr. Miller recently visited the site. They are doing very well but are still having supply chain issues. They are interested in working with more local businesses to help with this; Mr. Longest advised that he will reach out to Lewis Ball. They are also having difficulty hiring new employees to meet the COF grant requirements.

- B.** Business Visit to Bennett Mineral - Mr. Miller advised that he met with representatives from the company and is helping them look into VEDP grants. They are also having trouble with hiring.
- C.** Premier Tech COF Extension Request - Mr. Miller informed the Board that they have not met the benchmarks as required. They are very close on the capital investment portion but are short on the new hires. There was general discussion relating to the effect that COVID has had on their projects. It was the consensus to support the extension as long as there are sufficient assurances that the company is trying to meet the benchmarks.
- D.** VEDP Marketing Inquiries - Mr. Miller advised that VEDP has had several inquiries for business opportunities at the airport but so far none have worked out. He also advised of a new business inquiry in the Bohannon Business Park but does not have details to share at this time.
- E.** Potential Business Expansion – Mr. Miller advised of a new business inquiry in the Bohannon Business Park but does not have details to share at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Ammons presented a request from Beth Hayes on behalf of a local quilting group regarding use of the facility at Marriott School. As background, the County ceased lease and use of the space due to COVID restrictions. Relocation of EMS staff into part of the building, also due to COVID, has further restricted use of the facility. Ms. Hayes has raised concern that the County is not meeting the requirements contained in the deed of gift to have the facility open for use by the public. It is staff's position that since the COVID requirements are what have placed the restrictions on use, it is not a change that the County can make at this time.

A motion was made by Ms. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Holmes to support the position of County staff and authorize Mr. Miller to reach out to Ms. Hayes and let her know. Motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business brought forth, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Jesse Holmes, Secretary