

**King and Queen County
Economic Development Authority
Minutes
November 7, 2024**

A regular meeting of the King and Queen County Economic Development Authority was held November 7, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room of the King and Queen County Administration Building, 242 Allen's Circle, King and Queen Court House, VA 23085.

Members Present: George Longest, Jesse Holmes, Melinda Coleman, Joseph McGuire

Staff Present: Vivian Seay, Tina Ammons, Kelly Evko, Erin Lazar, Dr. David Curran, Dr. Carol Carter

Call To Order

Chairman Longest called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes was tabled to the next meeting due to action on minutes being omitted from the draft provided.

Citizens Comments

Dr. Carter advised that she is very glad to be included in the meeting and introduced the Dr. Curran, Assistant Superintendent.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Ammons provided copies of the monthly financial report for the month of October and asked for any questions regarding the report.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Longest advised that he and Ms. Evko have set up to have a call every Thursday to see how things are going and keep up to date. This has been very helpful and they will continue to do so.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Old Business

- a. Timmons Site Study – Kelly Evko provided an overview of the study so far and the goal of the project. The authority discussed their long range vision as well as things going on in other counties. This study, once completed, will help align priorities with the assets available. There was also discussion as to whether or not any of this work

could be done in house, but the consensus was that this is not the expertise nor the focus that staff should have.

A motion was made by Ms. Coleman and seconded by Mr. McGuire to approve Phase II of the site study project and to request the Board to fund it through the funds set aside for the EDA in the county fund balance policy. Motion was approved unanimously.

- b. Comprehensive Plan (Economic Development portion) review and recommendation to Planning Commission – Staff recommended several changes just as the county is no longer debt free and does not have a AAA bond rating. Members discussed several changes such as changing artificial to transient on page 24 item 3, to add a section relating to data centers and to add “work with industry experts” under the future strategies section bullet point one.

A motion was made by Mr. Holmes and seconded by Mr. McGuire to recommend these changes to the Planning Commission for the economic development section of the Comprehensive Plan.

- c. BOS Retreat – After lengthy discussion of member availability and the fact the EDA will be meeting with the board in the new future it was decided to not participate in the retreat.

New Business

- a. EDA Properties Evaluation – This item was discussed under the Timmons site study item.
- b. Economic Development Priorities and Timeline – Kelly Evko provided a presentation of her goals and objectives for the next 90 days and beyond as short term and long term priorities.
- c. Local Government Updates
 - a. Board of Supervisors – Vivian Seay provided an update on the process for selecting an A & E firm for the master plan design for the property purchase behind Central High School.
 - b. Planning Commission – The Planning Commission is in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance. Several items that are being looked at are to add data centers and to remove the requirement to rezone to Industrial for solar facilities. There is also a citizen application under consideration for a rezoning for an aquaculture operation.
 - c. Community Programming – Erin Lazar advised that the library is very busy and that programs offered are filling up quickly. Voting took place on Tuesday at the library with 518 voters. There are over 5,000 books in the collection now, staff has been very intentional in the creation and additions made. The book club has become very popular and is growing quickly. She also advised that Riverstreet has leased the billboard near the telework center.
 - d. King and Queen Schools – Dr. Carter and Dr. Curran had to leave early so no report was provided.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to the next meeting on November 12, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., King and Queen County Administration Building, 242 Allen's Circle, King and Queen Court House, VA 23085.

Jesse Holmes, Secretary