

**King and Queen County
Economic Development Authority
Minutes
May 7th, 2026**

A regular meeting of the King and Queen County Economic Development Authority was held May 7th, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the second-floor conference room in the Court and Administration Building, 242 Allen's Circle, King and Queen Court House, VA 23085.

Members Present: George Longest, Melinda Coleman, Joseph McGuire, Sarah Massey, Plunard Robinson

Staff Present: Kelly Evko, Vivian Seay, Resa Wilson, Dr. Carter

Call To Order

Chairman Longest called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Melinda Coleman and seconded by Joseph McGuire to approve the March 2026 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Citizens Comments

No comments were received.

Habitat for Humanity Presentation- Jason Tickle- Area Director

Jason Tickle who is the Area Director for the Central Rappahannock River Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Tickle said Habitat for Humanity expanded to King and Queen in 2022 and has hopes to start work in the county within the next year. Mr. Tickle explained the different loan options Habitat for Humanity uses as well as the different programs offered to help get homes built. The main focus is to serve locals first which can include individuals who live and work in the County or individuals who work in the County but live somewhere else. Kelly Evko mentioned she saw this as a possible option to help with housing in the Community, which has been something the EDA has been looking into. Mr. Tickle also mentioned they have been doing more mixed income development. This is where homes in a new development are a mixture of new homes and workforce or affordable housing. Mr. Tickle said he has a dream for King and Queen County and hope to work towards it one day. The dream would be to have a mixed income development with a Parks and Rec area. Mr. Tickle thanked everyone for their time and appreciated the opportunity to be here. Members of the EDA thanked Mr. Tickle for sharing with them.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Ammons provided copies of the March and April 2026 financial report.

Chairman Longest reported that the EDA would need to ratify two checks written by Ms. Ammons. He noted that he had previously authorized the checks via correspondence. Chairman Longest made a motion to ratify the two checks written by Ms. Ammons. Melinda Coleman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Report

No Chairman's report.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Local Update - School Division

Dr. Carter, School Superintendent, provided the following update:

- a. Central High School Graduation will be held on May 22nd at 6 PM.
- b. There will be a Joint Field Day on May 15th for the Elementary Schools. The field day will be held at Lawson Marriott Elementary.
- c. Dr. Carter attended the pinning ceremony at Bridging Communities. Commencement for Bridging Communities will take place on May 13th.
- d. A lot of different promotions and graduations will be happening. Pre-K graduates to kindergarten. Kindergarten will be promoted to First Grade and Sixth Grade will be promoted to the High School.
- e. School Board Work Session will be held on Tuesday, May 19th.
- f. Due to bus driver shortages because of health issues, High School and Elementary students are on the same bus due to combining bus routes.
- g. Job openings throughout the schools from teachers to principals.
- h. SOL testing is currently in progress. Testing scores are slow to come in.

Update from County Administrator

Vivian Seay, County Administrator, provided the following update:

- a. Budget has been the main focus.
- b. Expect the Board of Supervisors to vote on a budget on May 11th. A public hearing for the budget was set for April 29th.
- c. There will be a community meeting in to give an update on the school project.
- d. EMS Station plans should be going to DEQ. Just recently had a meeting with the engineers.

Update from Community Programming and Tourism

Erin Lazar provided the following updates:

- a. It was exciting to be a part of the Garden Tour. The Marriott Facility and Library was a place for individuals on the tour to have lunch. There also garden talks that took place on the grounds as well. The new Marriott School exhibit was also put up to be on display as well.
- b. County Fair of the Past will be on May 16th, 2026 from 10 am to 2 pm. This will be the VA 250 celebration. There will be many different exhibits, food trucks and the VA 250 mobile to experience on this day. Have been lucky to have some great partners to help make this event successful.

Old Business

a. Member Marketplace Update

- a. Member Marketplace is up and running. Off to a great start. 300 businesses have signed up already. Working towards advertising it more.

b. Entrepreneur Classes Update

- a. Ten people have shown interest in the class
- b. The class was shared with the schools as well.

c. Timmons- Property Discussion

- a. Having a discussion in June might be better.
- b. Will work towards formalizing a marketing plan.

New Business

a. Increase Check Signing Authority

- i. There was some discussion on increasing the check signing authority for Tina Ammons. The largest reoccurring check that is written off of the EDA Bank account is for \$3,000. Chairman Longest made a motion to increase the check signing authority for Tina Ammons to \$3,000. Plunard Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Budget for EDA

- i. Kelly is planning on having a draft of the EDA budget available for members in at the June meeting.

c. Regional EDA Meeting

- i. King and Queen County will be hosting a Regional EDA meeting for the Middle Peninsula EDAs, Board of Supervisors, and other entities who could benefit or be beneficial to helping the region thrive. Kelly explained firms look at a regional area vs one locality when making decisions on development. It is important to work as a region to make progress and take advantage of funding as a whole. The vision is to hopefully do this quarterly.

Update from Kelly Evko, Director of Economic Development

- a) Have been attending meetings all over the place.
- b) Attended the GOVA Economic Development Summit on April 21st at the Mary Washington Dahlgren Campus. There was around 125 people in attendance. King and Queen County EDA were a bronze sponsor for the event. The keynote speaker was the CEO of Rappahannock Electric.
- c) Travelled to Charlottesville to see the unveiling of the tourism strategic plan.
- d) Attended Career Day at Central High School which was fun and interesting. Had the opportunity to interact with the students and get their take on "What is Economic Development?"

- e) Planning on attending a few more conferences in the coming months. The next big one will be the Energy Summit which will be held in North Carolina.

Member Comments

Chairman Longest asked about one of the upcoming meetings being held at Bridging Communities in New Kent. Kelly Evko says the plan is to have the September EDA meeting at Bridging Communities.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. to the June 4th, 2026 meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Courts and Administration Building, 242 Allen's Circle, King and Queen Court House, VA 23085.

Jesse Holmes, Secretary