

**ALBEMARLE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES
January 21, 2025
Room 241 4:00 P.M.**

Directors present: Don Long, Chair; Jeff Morrill, Vice-chair; Andrea Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer; David Storm; Steve Hood.

Directors absent: Steve McNaughton.

Staff present: Emily Kilroy, Director of Economic Development; Johnathan Newberry, Deputy Director of Economic Development; Ashley Hernandorena, Business Development Manager; Avery Thompson, Management Analyst III; Jeanette Ark, Project Manager; Richard DeLoria, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, Board of Supervisors Liaison to the EDA, Rivanna District; Jeff Richardson, County Executive; Trevor Henry, Deputy County Executive

Staff absent: None.

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Matters from the Public

Emily Kilroy confirmed no speakers had signed up or raised their hands to speak.

3. Annual Meeting

a. Election of Officers

Motion to reelect Mr. Long as Chair, Mr. Morrill as Vice Chair, and Ms. Johnson as Treasurer was made by Mr. Long and seconded by Mr. Storm.

Mr. DeLoria stated that they did not need to call the roll, because they could elect the officers by acclamation with a voice vote.

MOTION: The motion carried unanimously. (Mr. McNaughton was absent)

b. Re-adopt remote/virtual meeting policies

Mr. DeLoria explained that the EDA was required to review and re-adopt the meeting policies every year, so it was typical to re-adopt the policies at the organizational meeting. He noted that there were no changes to the policy other than the date of adoption.

Motion to adopt the remote/virtual meeting policies was made by Mr. Storm and seconded by Ms. Johnson.

MOTION: The motion carried unanimously. (Mr. McNaughton was absent)

Mr. Long welcomed newly appointed EDA Director Steve Hood. He had staff and members present introduce themselves.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from December 17, 2024 as amended, with the addition that it was a virtual meeting, was made by David Storm and seconded by Mr. Morrill.

MOTION: The motion carried unanimously. (Mr. McNaughton was absent)

5. Financial Report

Ms. Johnson reviewed the changes in the financial report.

Mr. Thompson provided the financial report. He asked for any feedback, which could be submitted via email.

Motion to adopt the financial report was made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by David Storm.

MOTION: The motion carried unanimously. (Mr. McNaughton was absent)

6. Unfinished Business

a. Update on Board of Supervisors – Econ. Dev. Authority MOU

Mr. Long said that Mr. DeLoria had prepared a first draft of the MOU, and he had reviewed it along with Ms. Kilroy. He said they planned to discuss the changes within the next two weeks, so they anticipated circulating a draft to the directors before the next meeting.

7. New Business

a. Go Virginia Wine Industry Implementation Grant

Maureen Kelley, Nelson County Economic Development and Tourism Director, provided a presentation regarding the implementation grant. She said the goal was to get Virginia wine into the traded sector. She said that customer discovery and sustainability were crucial to the success of the initiative, and there were several underutilized resources in the region for businesses to take advantage of.

Ms. Kelley said that they had four proposals before the Wine Board, and they had several letters of support. She requested that the EDA continue to support the process through a \$20,000 contribution, and they had a local match for the funds.

Ms. Kilroy noted that they had considered including beer and cider businesses, but wine had unique business challenges, and they were focusing resources on those challenges.

Ms. Kilroy said that the EDA could take action on the request at the February meeting.

Mr. Hood asked if they had investigated other states with emerging wine industries. Ms. Kelley replied that they had reviewed Oregon, Washington, and Texas. She said that they did not want to duplicate efforts because it was a critical time in the industry.

Mr. Long suggested that they take action on the request at the next meeting, allowing time for the directors to ask any more questions. Ms. Kilroy said that all questions should be directed to staff so that they can coordinate the information.

b. Overview of Broadway Blueprint Study Phase 2

Mr. Newberry introduced the topic. He said that the presentation was just for informational purposes.

David Benish, Development Process Manager, provided an update on Phase 2 of the Broadway Blueprint Study. He said that the goal was to develop actionable implementation strategies focused on land use and economic vitality, placemaking, and connectivity. He said that the Board of Supervisors endorsed the study on September 4, 2024, and they referred the study to the EDO and CDD for implementation.

c. Staff Report

Ms. Kilroy provided the staff report. She welcomed Director Hood to the Authority. She said that SOEI Forms were due to the Clerk of the Board on February 3 by 5 p.m.

Mr. DeLoria noted that there was a \$250 fine for late submissions, and there was no flexibility according to the County Attorney.

Ms. Kilroy said that since they last discussed the potential for email forwarding, the IT Department requested that they not move forward. They were investigating a new solution, and she would update the Authority once they finalized it.

Mr. Newberry provided an update on Project ENABLE and the strategic plan. He said a stakeholder committee was meeting with Steven Pedigo, a consultant from a firm called Resonance. He noted this was the same consultant who updated the City's strategic plan.

Ms. Kilroy announced that they had revamped the Rivanna Futures webpage, including new drone footage of the property. She said they had uploaded key documents that they had developed, as well. She said there were three funding requests operating in parallel: Go Virginia, the state budget, and VBRSP. These requests would fund design,

site readiness, and road construction. She said that Senator Deeds and Delegate Laufer both submitted budget amendments.

Ms. Kilroy said that CvilleBioHub would be having a ribbon cutting event for its wet-lab accelerator in February. She announced that on Thursday, economic development representatives would be presenting at an event hosted by the Defense Affairs Committee of the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce. The event would focus on the innovation corridor emerging in the County, the City, and Greene County. She said that staff planned to make a similar presentation to the EDA in February.

Ms. Kilroy said that CvilleBioHub was hosting the 2nd Annual CvilleBioHub Device and Tech Expo on January 30 from 4 to 7 p.m. The event was open to registrants. She announced that CACVB was hosting a tourism-for-all training and recognition program on February 11 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

8. Other Matters

There were none.

9. Adjourn

Chair Long adjourned the meeting at 5:48pm The next meeting is February 18th, 2025, in Room 241.

Teste: _____
Donald Long, Chairman

Approved: _____
Emily Kilroy, Assistant Secretary