

March 14, 2022

**MEETING OF THE POWHATAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD IN THE VILLAGE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM, 4290 ANDERSON HIGHWAY
IN POWHATAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MARCH 14, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

EDA Members Present: Dan Jones, Chairman
Frank Rennie, Vice-Chairman
Tim Benusa, Treasurer
Matt Schiefer

Absent Russ Holland, Jr.

Staff Members Present: Roxanne Salerno, Economic Development Manager

Guest: Susan Winiecki, Powhatan Habitat for Humanity
John Saber, Powhatan Habitat for Humanity
Lisa Dearden, RVAg

A. Call to Order

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that all members were present with the exception of Mr. Holland. A quorum was established.

B. Meeting minutes from January 10, 2022 – The board asked to correct one word of the minutes. Mr. Rennie motioned to approve the meeting minutes with changes stated. Mr. Schiefer seconded the motion. Mr. Rennie, Mr. Benusa, Mr. Schiefer and Chairman Jones voted AYE. **MOTION Passed (4/0).**

C. Treasurer’s Report-

Mr. Benusa presented the board with the treasurer’s report. The balances of the EDA accounts were \$3,523.58 for the checking account and \$57,175.88 in the Certificate of Deposit account.

D. Old Business-

a. County Entrance Signage Discussion- Mrs. Salerno gave the board an update on the county entrance sign estimates that have been acquired. The final estimate and rendering has been secured which will now go before the Board of Supervisors for approval before permits are applied for and sign contract signed. Chairman Jones and Vice-Chairman Rennie will be present for the March 28th Board of Supervisors meeting to give the board an overview of the sign project.

E. New Business- *New Business was held earlier in the meeting after the Treasurer’s report to accommodate guest presentations.*

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- a. **Habitat for Humanity Discussion on Urbine Property** – Mrs. Winiecki and Mr. Saber presented an update on Powhatan Habitat for Humanity giving highlights on their work and what the future of the ReStore looks like based on current status. Storage is a great need in the ReStore to continue to take items for resale and also expand shopping space and storage of items used in critical repair. Habitat for Humanity would like to continue their lease in the space for another five years once it ends in December 2023. Additionally, the Habitat is asking permission of the EDA to expand their property to allow a storage building to be constructed on the western side of the property next to the building. Board members asked questions of what the buildout master plan looked like and costs associated with its construction. The Board asked Habitat to take 90 days to pursue a master plan with pricing and financing to bring back to the EDA board for further consideration.
- b. **Powhatan Village Farmers Market Discussion** – Ms. Dearden presented an update on the Powhatan Village Farmers Market with introduction of the new Powhatan market at Independence Golf Club. Ms. Dearden gave an overview of the Village Farmers Market and its success since opening in 2020 with numerous Powhatan producers in regular attendance. Ms. Dearden is asking for local community funding for RVAg that supports the Village Farmers Market and Farmers Market at Independence. Board members suggested putting in a local contribution request for the Board of Supervisors budget and then returning to the EDA if not successful.
- c. **Economic Development Monthly Report for Jan/Feb 2022** – Mrs. Salerno presented the report to the board with mention of certain business highlights of interest and asked if there were any questions.
- d. **New Tourism Website View** – Mrs. Salerno presented the new tourism website to the board giving an overview of the previous website and then switching over to the new website. Mrs. Salerno walked through the new website showing areas of interest and the overall new and fresh look of the tourism site.

F. Closed Session and Certification- No closed session needed.

G. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Benusa made the motion and Mr. Rennie seconded the motion. Mr. Rennie, Mr. Schiefer, Mr. Benusa, and Chairman Jones voted AYE. **MOTION Passed (4/0).**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Economic Development Authority Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2022



Dan Jones, Chairman 9/16/22
Economic Development Authority Date



Roxanne Salerno, Secretary 9/16/22
Economic Development Authority Date