

April 9, 2019

**MEETING OF THE POWHATAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD IN THE POWHATAN VILLAGE BUILDING FIRE AND RESCUE CONFERENCE
ROOM, 3910 OLD BUCKINGHAM ROAD IN POWHATAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, APRIL 9,
2019 AT 6:00 PM**

EDA Members Present: Sen. John Watkins, Chairman
Dan Jones, Vice-Chairman
Andrea Weber
Russ Holland, Jr
Matt Schiefer
Bob Gibson

Staff Members Present: Bret Schardein, Assistant County Administrator
Roxanne Salerno, Economic Development Program
Manager

Absent: Tim Benusa, Treasurer

Guest: Don Silberbauer
Mike Byerly

A. Call to Order

Sen. Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and noted that all members were present with the exception of Tim Benusa and Russ Holland who arrived at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was established.

B. Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2019

Mr. Schiefer motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Mrs. Weber, Mr. Holland, Mr. Jones, Mr. Schiefer, Mr. Gibson and Chairman Watkins voted AYE. **MOTION Passed (6/0).**

C. Treasurer’s Report

- a. With the absence of Mr. Benusa, Chairman Watkins advised the treasurer’s report for April and May would be presented at the May meeting.

D. Old Business

- a. **Discussion of industrial development –**

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Item was removed from agenda for further discussion with Planning Commission through a joint workshop with both the Economic Development Authority and Planning Commission.

b. Discussion of Beaumont property-

Mr. Schardein updated the board that the Beaumont amendment was never produced. The budget amendment never made it to the final committee report. Chairman Watkins advised the board on his recent updates from various legislative members. He advised that Henrico has no issues although wanted to reserve the utilities for future use as well. Department of General Services to be asked to prepare a lease for the property. Beaumont is still under consideration for another correctional facility with the state. Chairman Watkins suggested that the matter be proposed again to the new Board of Supervisors for the next session.

The board discussed the use of the property to be proposed to the state. The plan included discussion of a regional training facility for fire and rescue as well as other buildings possibly turned into a regional business incubator. Chairman asked staff to contact DGS about a tour for the EDA members to better determine the uses and feasibility of the property.

c. R-C zoning-

Chairman Watkins asked about a draft of changes to the Comp Plan and the R-C zoning. Mr. Schardein updated the board that there is only one for the R-C zoning which will be going before the Board of Supervisors at the April 24th meeting. Chairman Watkins informed the board of a call that he received from a representative from the Richmond Association of Realtors regarding the proposed R-C zoning changes and concerns of property rights.

Mr. Silberbauer commented that there was a workshop for the R-C zoning prior to the BOS meeting that was going to be on April 11th, 2019.

Chairman Watkins brought the sale of PIEtech to the attention of the board and then discussed what that meant for the future of the company and its presence here in Powhatan.

Mr. Schardein informed the board that staff is currently working on target sectors that are appropriate for the county and will bring more information to the next meeting to discuss with the board.

E. New Business

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- a. **Economic Development Monthly report for March 2019** - Mr. Schardein presented the March report to the board with mention of certain highlights of interest and asked if there were any questions.
- b. **Bike lanes/trails**- Mr. Holland posed the question to the board regarding the economic impact and viability of bike lanes/trails and whether anyone had experience with them. Mr. Jones brought up the VDOT trail from Hanover to Petersburg and whether that would be able to be extended to Powhatan. Mr. Schardein mentioned the Healthy Living Initiative that Hanover passed which relies on developers to build the bike trails not the county. There was discussion of the right-of-way purchases and the high cost of getting those in place, which may be a project that VDOT grants could cover. The capital trail was mentioned since there was significant federal and state funding contributed to that project. Chairman Watkins asked staff to inquire with surrounding counties that have a bike trail to see what their opinions are on the economic benefits of the trails.

F. Closed Session and Certification-

Mr. Jones made the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Authority of Powhatan County desires to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matter(s):

One (1) matter concerning the discussion of a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the decision of the business to locate in the community.

WHEREAS, pursuant to §§2.2-3711 (A)(28) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting.

Mrs. Weber seconded the motion

Chairman Watkins conducted a roll call:

Director	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent from Meeting
Andrea Weber	X			
Matt Scheifer	X			
Timothy Benusa				X
Russell E. Holland, Jr.	X			
John C. Watkins	X			
Robert (Bob) Clyde Gibson	X			
Daniel G. Jones	X			

Mr. Gibson, Mr. Holland, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Weber, Mr. Scheiefer and Sen. Watkins voted

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AYE. MOTION Passed (6/0)

The EDA Board went into the closed meeting at 6:55 p.m.

The EDA Board came out of the closed meeting at 7:23 p.m.

At the conclusion of the closed meeting:

Senator Watkins stated:

“ I hereby reconvene this Regular (or Special) Meeting of the Economic Development Authority of Powhatan County Board of Directors in open meeting and request the Secretary of the Board to conduct a roll call certification vote of the Directors, to be included in the minutes of this meeting.”

Chairman Watkins stated:

“Do you certify to the best of your knowledge that:

- (1) the only matters discussed in the closed meeting were public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements, and
- (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting just conducted?”

Chairman Watkins conducted a roll call:

Director	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent from Meeting
Andrea Weber	X			
Matt Schiefer	X			
Timothy Benusa				X
Russell E. Holland, Jr.	X			
John C. Watkins	X			
Robert (Bob) Clyde Gibson	X			
Daniel G. Jones	X			

Mr. Gibson, Mr. Holland, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Weber, Mr. Scheiefer and Sen. Watkins voted AYE. **MOTION Passed (6/0).**

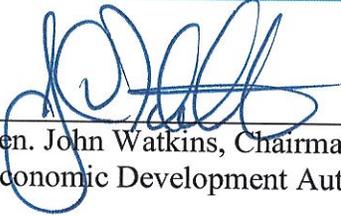
G. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Watkins moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gibson motioned and Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Mrs. Weber, Mr. Schiefer, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Holland and Chairman Watkins voted AYE. **MOTION Passed (6/0).**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Economic Development Authority Meeting Minutes

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Sen. John Watkins, Chairman
Economic Development Authority

7/8/19
Date


Bret Schardein, Secretary
Economic Development Authority

7/15/19
Date