



WALKER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

101 South Duke St.
P.O. Box 445
LaFayette, GA 30728
706.924.0099

Andy Arnold (Chair)
Max Morrison (Vice-Chair)
Jim Cole (Secretary/Treasurer)
Evitte Parrish

Mark Chandler
Angie Teems
Stephanie Watkins (Executive Director)

Minutes of the Regular Meeting **April 8, 2025**

- I. Call to order at 10:00 a.m. by Andy Arnold**
Present: Chair Andy Arnold, Vice Chair Max Morrison, Mark Chandler, Evitte Parrish, County Commission Chair Angie Teems, Executive Director Stephanie Watkins, and Development Authority Attorney David Gottlieb. Others present: see attached sign-in sheet.
Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Jim Cole
- II. Invocation given by Evitte Parrish**
- III. Approval of the Agenda**
Before approval of the agenda, Chairman Arnold noted that due to Secretary/Treasurer Jim Cole's absence, the Financial Report would be given at next month's meeting. He stated that the agenda should be amended to remove the Financial Report from consideration.
Motion: Evitte Parrish made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of the Financial Report, seconded by Max Morrison, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. March 11, 2025**
Motion: Max Morrison made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.
- V. Financial Report**
Due to the absence of the Secretary/Treasurer, the financial report is expected to be presented at the next meeting.
- VI. Executive Director's Report**
Executive Director Stephanie Watkins stated that she received four new RFIs since the last meeting. She mentioned an existing industry visit with Roper conducted in partnership with the Northwest Georgia JDA. Executive Director Watkins mentioned Georgia Trend's 2025 Economic Yearbook which highlighted each region of the State including noteworthy mentions in Northwest Georgia and especially Walker County, were McLemore, Roper, and the Walker Rocks Park. She also mentioned a teleconference scheduled with the Georgia Department of Economic Development to discuss the pre-application for GRAD certification of the Walker County Business Park before making an application for the Rural Site Development Grant.

Executive Director Watkins then reminded the Board of the Planning Commission Meeting next week regarding the rezone request of the property within the Walker County Business Park.

After the Executive Director's Report, Chairman Arnold read a note from Board Member Jim Cole, thanking the Board for their prayers and the flowers sent to his family in light of the passing of his sister.

VII. Presentations

No presentations.

VIII. Executive Session

Chairman Andy Arnold sought a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate and potential litigation.

Motion: County Commission Chair Angie Teems made a motion to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

Motion: Max Morrison made a motion to exit Executive Session and enter into the Regular Meeting, seconded by Mark Chandler, 4 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

IX. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Secretary



Date

5/13/23

Minutes prepared by: Executive Director, Stephanie Watkins