



**Surry County Economic Development Authority
of Surry County Virginia**

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 19, 2024@ 6:00 P.M.

Meeting Location: General District Courtroom, 45 School Street, Surry, Virginia 23883

Physical Address of Authority Office: 203 Church Street, Surry, Virginia 23883

MEETING CONVENED

A meeting of the Surry County Economic Development Authority (EDA) was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairman Myron Wooden.

ATTENDANCE

The meeting was opened with the following members present:

Mr. Myron Wooden	Present
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	Present
Mr. Trenton Howell	Present
Mr. Howell Godfrey	Present
Mr. Terry Lewis	Absent
Mr. John Price	Present
Mrs. Janet Monahan	Present

The meeting was officially opened by Chairman Myron Wooden with all invited to share a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW

A motion was made by Mrs. Henderson and seconded by Mrs. Monahan approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes
Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the minutes from the April 25, 2024 meeting as presented.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes
Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Henderson as follows:

Banking summary

- A. \$211,905.44 – Bank balance as of August 30, 2024 unrestricted funds, of that amount just \$35,000 of that amount is restricted funds for the business grants and the Surry Market Place. Once those funds are transferred out \$177,205.32 will remain as unrestricted funds.

A motion was made by Mr. Godfrey seconded Mrs. Monahan to accept the report as given.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes
Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously

OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Update from Claremont re: Loan

Ms. Perkins shared the update of the Claremont project with the Board. The town had contracted with Big Foot Landscaping to complete this project at 200 Bailey Ave. The town of Claremont has sent a certified letter to the owner of the property for the \$41,569.51 which includes all fees. The letter was sent around the middle of August they were provided with a 90-calendar day to reply/respond which is November 11, 2024. The property owner is a elderly individual but the son is currently the one who is handling the taxes and the matter for her and the taxes are current.

Improvement Grant

Renee shared that she had worked with Ms. Perkins to get an agreement in place for signature at the time of the compliance review. One of the grant projects has been completed but there are still two others which are not completed and one project awardee has withdrawn. E & E did complete their project for the in the amount of \$7000.00 and the committee toured the location to confirm completion prior to the payment being made.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Surry County Chamber of Commerce-Grant request withdrawn at this time to be evaluated and may be proposed at a later once the Chamber is ready to come before the EDA to discuss.

B. Morelia Restaurant, Grant request

Renee shared that the owner has asked for assistance for a fence which he has to install due to the ABC regulatory inspection. Currently, the owner is scheduled to open the first or second week of October. Mrs. Perkins explained that we would enter into a grant agreement for the funds.

Motion was made by Mrs. Henderson and seconded by Mr. Price to approve a grant not to exceed \$20,000 for the Morelia Restaurant for the construction of a fence required by the ABC Board.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes
Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously

Discussion about development of a New Business Investment Grant program that is different than the improvement grant program. This would look at factors to include investment into the County and job creation, among other items. A motion was made by Mrs. Henderson and seconded by Mr. Godfrey that we develop a New Business Investment Grant program and Mrs. Perkins and Renee will present this to them at the next meeting.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes

Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously

Renee shared that there would be a commercial about Surry County airing on Channel 12, anticipated either the 1st or 2nd week of October.

Citizen Comments
(no citizen comments)

Office of Economic Development Report

- Ms. Chaplain shared that she had attended the Virginia Chamber on Infrastructure event and six state RFP's have been completed in the last 30 days.
- Renee shared information about the new app which she currently has in place for agritourism for the farmers.
- A grant has been completed for electric vehicle charging stations in the county
- The wayfinding program is currently at 80%
- They are currently working with Crater Planning District Commission and the state Main Street program to schedule a joint meeting to discuss a Main Street initiative.
- Surry Marketplace is now open for business.

Directors Comments

Mr. Godfrey stated that he like the change in things that they are making and moving in the right direction

Mrs. Monahan expressed a thank you to Mrs. Henderson for all her work with the grocery store. She also expressed a thank you to Mrs. Perkins and Ms. Chaplain for all the work that they do

Mr. Price stated that he had some conversation about the store, but it is finally open. We now need to spend our dollars there because Surry is going to grow.

Mr. Howell stated we have a grocery store, and he is now looking forward to the new grant opportunities and excited about the growth in the county.

Mrs. Henderson stated that she is excited that we as an EDA have moved to another level. She also shared that the Obici Foundation showed up at the grocery store today

Mr. Wooden expressed a thank you to all the Board members in doing what we do.

The next meeting will be November 21, 2024 at 6 pm in the General District Courtroom.

A motion was made by Mrs. Henderson and seconded by Mrs. Monahan to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm.

Roll Call

Mr. Myron Wooden	yes
Mrs. Joyce Henderson	yes
Mr. Trenton Howell	yes
Mr. Howell Godfrey	yes
Mr. John Price	yes
Mrs. Janet Monahan	yes

Motion carried unanimously

