



**MEETING MINUTES  
BEDFORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**Bedford County Administration Building  
Ground Floor Training Room  
122 E. Main Street  
Bedford, VA 24523  
October 8, 2019  
6:46 p.m.**

**Economic Development Authority:**

**Present:**

Dennis Novitzke - Dist. 1; Mickey Johnson, Chairman - Dist. 2; Wyatt Walton - Dist. 3; Matthew Braud - Dist. 4; Kristy Milton - Dist. 5; Kelly Harmony - Dist. 6; Jim Messier, Vice-Chairman - Dist. 7

**Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Traci Blido - EDA Secretary; Pam Bailey - Marketing & Business Development Coordinator

**Staff Absent:** Robert Hiss - County Administrator; Patrick Skelley - County Attorney

**Transcriber:** Julia Peters

**(1) APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to approve and/or any amendments to the Authority's October 8, 2019 agenda.

**Mrs. Harmony moved, seconded by Mr. Messier, to approve the October 8, 2019 EDA agenda, as presented.**

**Voting yes: Mr. Novitzke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Walton, Mr. Braud, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Harmony, Mr. Messier**

**Voting no: None**

**Adopted Unanimously**

**(2) APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - September 5, 2019**

Chairman Johnson asked for approval and/or any amendments to the Authority's regular September 5, 2019 meeting minutes.

**Mr. Braud moved, seconded by Mr. Novitzke, to approve the September 5, 2019 meeting minutes, as presented.**

**Voting yes: Mr. Novitzke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Walton, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Harmony, Mr. Messier**

**Voting no: None**

**Abstain: Mr. Braud**

**Motion Passes/Minutes Approved**

**(3) REPORTS**

**A. Economic Development Director's Report**

Mrs. Blido thanked Mrs. Milton for attending the September 10th Business Roundtable, where she represented the EDA well. She has put in a CIP request for \$450,000 for grading in Montvale Center for Commerce and will keep the EDA members posted. Mrs. Blido and Mr. Hiss also met with the Blue Ridge Community Church pastors. They are investing \$2.2 million to expand their church in Bedford and have bought property at the Westgate Shopping Center and will be building out a 30,000 square foot church area next to Central Virginia Manufacturing (CVM). They are also planning to add a youth program and a retail space in the center which will serve the community well. This expansion information was also shared with the Town administrators. The public announcements about Valtim and SML Packaging was made, and she continues to talk with another company as noted in the last closed session, finding solutions to help them with their capital. She will be going to the Tobacco Commission meeting tomorrow. In a subcommittee meeting last week, it was noted that The National D-Day Memorial had applied for a grant totaling all that is left in the Southside Economic Development Fund which is \$538,000. The TRRC staff has recommended to the committee that the D-Day Memorial be given \$200,000 at this time and welcomed them to apply for a second grant later. This will allow Bedford County to receive \$200,000 for the Meade Road Project and it still leaves about \$100,000 in the Southside Economic Development Fund for future needs. Mrs. Blido has also written the EDA letter of support to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) regarding the proposed Smith Mountain Lake Center. Chairman Johnson said this item is on the agenda for the October BOS meeting.

**B. Marketing/Business Development Report**

Ms. Bailey reported that 69 students have participated in the Bedford One tours so far this school year. Upcoming tours include L3Harris Technologies., LU CERE, Coleman-Adams, and Southern Air and she is working on more tours for the rest of this year and into next year. She has also been working on performance agreements and business announcements with two more to be made once they are finalized and ready for the public. Ms. Bailey and Dr. Gardner, member of the Agricultural Advisory Board, produced a banner for the Bedford County Fair regarding how little land on the earth is used for raising livestock. She has been in contact with local and national publications promoting our shell building and other properties as well. She also submitted the first voucher to the Tobacco Commission for \$381,709.33 in reimbursement we should be receiving soon for the shell building project.

**C. Monthly Financial Report (September 2019)**

Staff reviewed the financial report with the EDA members and answered questions.

**D. Monthly Accounts Payable Report – Bills that have been paid (September 2019)**

Staff reviewed the accounts payable report with the EDA members and answered questions.

**(4) TOWN OF BEDFORD**

Nothing new to report.

**(5) BEDFORD CENTER FOR BUSINESS**

Nothing new to report.

**(6) MONTVALE CENTER FOR COMMERCE**

**A. Consideration of AEP Easement for Bobblett Gap**

Mrs. Blido and Ms. Bailey stated to the EDA members that AEP needs an easement on County property in order to bring power to Bobblett Gap on adjoining property.

**Mr. Walton moved, seconded by Mr. Braud to authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the AEP easement document for Bobblett Gap.**

**Voting yes: Mr. Novitzke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Walton, Mr. Braud, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Harmony, Mr. Messier**

**Voting no: None**

**Adopted Unanimously**

**(7) NEW LONDON BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

**A. Shell Building Construction Update**

Mrs. Blido had spoken with Mr. Cash and there are no new change orders. With good weather, the work has progressed on the site and the walls are going up. She continues to answer questions and receive good feedback from an interested prospect.

**B. Meade Road Extension Update**

Mrs. Blido reported that all three agencies, Bedford County, VDOT, and BRWA have completed round one of the three rounds of reviews and are now working on the second round. They have shortened the road which saves the County money, drainage is now moving away from the trails, and we are just waiting for the agencies to sign off on this second round of reviews.

**(8) OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Ratify Valtim's EDA Grant**

Mrs. Blido said this is a \$15,000 cash grant to Valtim upon receipt of their \$750,000 machine and new jobs and that Valtim will remain in Bedford County for the agreed timeframe. She requested the EDA ratify the grant.

**Mr. Messier moved, seconded by Mr. Braud to ratify the Valtim cash grant as stated.**

**Voting yes: Mr. Novitzke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Walton, Mr. Braud, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Harmony, Mr. Messier**

**Voting no: None**

**Adopted unanimously**

**B. Ratify SML Packaging's EDA Grant**

Mrs. Blido said this cash grant is \$20,000 for SML Packaging for the relocation of 12 existing jobs to Bedford County and at least three new jobs within three years. She requested the EDA ratify the grant.

**Mr. Braud moved, seconded by Mrs. Harmony to ratify the SML Packaging cash grant as stated.**

**Voting yes: Mr. Novitzke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Walton, Mr. Braud, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Harmony, Mr. Messier**

**Voting no: None**

**Adopted unanimously**

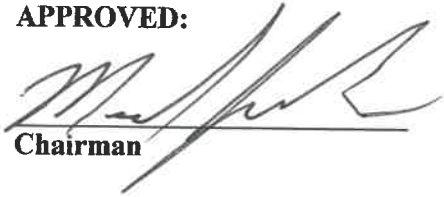
Chairman Johnson asked if there was an update regarding the grocery store across the street. Mrs. Blido and Mrs. Milton said that discussion is ongoing and continuing.

Mr. Novitzke asked for some clarification on the policy of inviting individuals to attend EDA closed sessions and the appearance of inconsistency. Discussion followed. Consensus of the EDA members is to have Mrs. Blido look at the bylaws and write a guideline/procedure for EDA closed sessions which the Authority members will then review, edit, and approve at the next meeting.

**(9) ADJOURNMENT**

7:24 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

  
Chairman

  
Secretary