



**Carroll County Industrial Development Authority**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
July 1, 2019  
4:00 p.m.

**Type of Meeting:** Organization Meeting and Regular Board Meeting

**Authority Members** - Andy Jackson Vice-Chairman, Larry Chambers - Secretary; Richard Sowers, Larry Edwards, Ronnie Collins, Ricky Thomas, Mandy McCraw, Sandy West - Treasurer, Steve Truitt - County Administrator/Executive Director IDA

**Regular Meeting**

1. Call to Order – Chairman Andy Jackson
2. Citizen Time
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of June 2019 Regular IDA Meeting Minutes
  - b. Approval of Claims
4. Closed Session Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (paragraphs A.1-Personnel Issues, A.3 – Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property; A.5 – Economic Development)
5. Treasurer’s Report/Monthly Financial Reports
6. Other Business
  - a. Authority Name Change Update
7. Authority Members Time
8. Chairman’s Time
9. Adjournment. Next meeting Monday, August 5, 2019 at 4:00.

## **Draft Minutes – June 3, 2019 Regular Meeting**

The Carroll County Industrial Development Authority held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Members present: Chairman Andy Jackson, Vice-Chairman Roger Wilson, Larry Edwards, Ricky Thomas, Ronnie Collins, Richard Sowers and Secretary Larry Chambers.

Also, County Administrator and IDA Executive Director Steve Truitt and IDA Treasurer Sandy West.

### **Minutes**

Mr. Edwards made the motion to approve the amended minutes of the May 6, 2019 meeting. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, which was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **Closed Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Edwards and approved by a 7-0 vote, the Authority entered into a closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (Section A.3 for acquisition or disposition of real property and Section A.5 for economic development).

### **Return to Regular Session – Certification**

On a motion by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Sowers, and approved by a 7-0 vote, the IDA returned to regular session and adopted the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Authority has convened a closed session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-3711 (A.3 Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property and Section A.5 for economic development) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

### **Pasture Lease**

After discussion, Mr. Wilson made the motion to approve a 5-year pasture lease agreement with Virginia Produce. The 46.2 acre of pasture land is located near the Carroll County Industrial Park. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **Treasurer's /Claims Report**

Mr. Chambers made the motion to approve the monthly claims and treasurer's report presented by Ms. West. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **Land Donation**

Mr. Chambers made the motion to donate 5 acres of the Guynn Farm to the Livestock Educational Center Project (only if needed). The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **IDA Name Change**

Mr. Thomas, in order to better reflect the intended mission of this body, made the motion that the Carroll County Industrial Development (IDA) take the necessary steps to change the name of the organization to the Carroll County Economic Development Authority (EDA). He suggested that the name change might better capture the current mission of the organization which is focused on economic development of all sorts and not limited to “industrial” organizations.

It was pointed out that Grayson County also changed the name of its IDA to EDA a few years ago.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Sowers and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Mr. Truitt said he would prepare a name change resolution and present it to the Board of Supervisors. He said a public hearing would also be required to give citizens the opportunity to make comments.

### **Supervisors Resolution**

Mr. Thomas presented a suggested resolution for the Board of Supervisors to include the IDA in the selection of a new county administrator.

Several members of the board made comments that they hated to see Mr. Truitt, the county administrator and executive director of the IDA, leave his position. He announced his resignation last month.

The suggested resolution brought a variety of comments from the board.

Mr. Thomas said, “I don’t feel like this body should sit back and be passive in its selection of Steve’s replacement or any temporary replacement. I believe we should, with a very serious resolution, ask to be part of the search committee in order to have our long-range objectives addressed, which is to promote economic growth in this county.”

Mr. Chambers added: “I think with the cooperation we have with the board of supervisors, that we definitely need a say in who they pick, because the person will also be the executive director of the IDA.”

Mr. Jackson said: “Steve, It’s been a pleasure working with you, and I hope that something happens where you get to stay, but I don’t see it. I hope, too, that on this (the supervisors) do have a committee and that (the supervisors) go through a process that is open. There’s been so many of them that weren’t open.”

Mr. Collins said: “As far as we are concerned, I don’t see us as the decision-making people on who’s hired as the county administrator or the assistant county administrator. We are not in the personnel end of things. I have a level of discomfort with that and I’d like to hear what the board has to say about it.”

Mr. Edwards said: “I’d like for (the supervisors) to look at our input.” He clarified that the IDA serves at the discretion of the board of supervisors as appointed, rather than elected, members. I could see some personnel issues, because when you are interviewing people you look at personal information and all that. I have a consternation with that, although I support the idea of having some kind input.”

Jackson commented, “With our position here, in whoever is hired as the county administrator being our head, we should have input.”

Edwards also asked for clarification regarding the county’s hiring process.

In the past, the county human resources department is responsible for defining and advertising the details and qualifications of the position, and that the Board of Supervisors develops a list of candidates. A candidate that best fits this description would then be selected to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors.

Thomas also asked if it was county policy that the county administrator also serve as the executive director of the IDA.

Authority members said that this is a contractual condition rather than a concrete policy.

Thomas continued, So, I guess my reason for bringing up that point is that the executive director works for this body, not this body working for the executive director,” Thomas said. “To that end, at the very least, we should have a strong say in the person that ultimately is chosen.”

The authority also discussed the possibility of hiring its own executive director.

They also discussed several advantages in having a full-time executive director with a primary focus on economic development.

The IDA also expressed serious concerns regarding Nikki Cannon, the assistant county administrator, who also resigned last month, and how that would affect the presentation, approval and execution of the fiscal year 2020 budget, which is still being finalized, closing out the financial details for fiscal year 2018-2019, which ends on June 30, and the handling of the county's annual audit that occurs at the transition into fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Collins made the motion for the IDA to request time on the closed session agenda for the July 8 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, in order to seek representation in the forthcoming personnel decisions. Mr. Chambers seconded the motion, and approved by a 7-0 vote.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Chambers made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Edwards, and approved by a 7-0 vote.