

**Warren County Economic Development Commission**  
**501 Hwy 158-Business East**  
**Warrenton, NC 27589**

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting June 19, 2023 - 4:00 P.M.  
Meeting held at Warren County Armory Civic Center

**Members Present:** John Earl Alston, Victor Hunt, Angelena Kearney-Dunlap, Brady Martin, Claude O'Hagan, Jim Whitley

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Diane Cox, President Kerr-Tar COG; Rachel Desmarais, President VGCC

**Members Absent:** Jane Ball-Groom, Stanley Jones, Brock Pepper

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Wayne Aycock, Mayor of Norlina; Carroll Harris, Mayor of Macon; Walter Gardner, Mayor of Warrenton; Leanne Patrick, Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce; Keith Sutton, Superintendent of WCPS;

**Also Present:** Charla Duncan, Community and Economic Development Director; Vincent Jones, County Manager; Rose Ponton, Community and Economic Developer; Ruth Tull, MidAtlantic Geologist; Butch Meek, Chair of Warren County Public Facilities; Madeline Galliano, Kerr Tar COG RPO

The June 19, 2023 meeting of the Warren County EDC Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Brady Martin at 4:04 PM.

Chairman Brady Martin requested all to join him in a moment of silence. Chairman Martin read the conflict-of-interest disclaimer. No conflicts were identified. A quorum was verified.

Chairman Martin asked members to review the June 2023 meeting agenda.

After review, a motion was made by Claude O'Hagan to set the meeting agenda, seconded by Victor Hunt. Duly carried by a unanimous vote; the June 19, 2023 meeting agenda was set.

Chairman Brady invited board members to review the May 2023 meeting minutes. After review, a motion was made by John Earl Alston to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Angelena Kearney-Dunlap, and duly carried by a unanimous vote; the May 15, 2023 minutes were approved.

Visitors Ruth Tull, Butch Meek, and Madeline Galliano were introduced for the benefit of the board.

Ruth Tull then gave a presentation to the board outlining the Warren County Brownfields program, award details, implementation timeframe, benefits, target areas, funded activity types, and projects that have been completed as well as those currently underway. Ms. Tull then fielded

questions from the board to clarify process and around various properties that could potentially be included.

Butch Meek then gave an overview of the Warren County Public Facilities Company. He detailed the inception and history of the WCPFC and stated that the non-profit is open to new projects if they are the right fit. Some discussion between Mr. Meek and the board followed regarding current and future potential projects.

Rose Ponton then provided the board with an update on the ongoing Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies (CORE) project.

Charla Duncan then gave her Director's report highlighting the GoldenLEAF Site Identification program's next steps.

John Earl Alston then made a motion to enter into closed session in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4) for Industry and Business Location. The motion was seconded by Victor Hunt and carried by a unanimous vote; the board entered into closed session.

Jim Whitley made a motion to leave closed session. This motion was seconded by Claude O'Hagan and passed with a unanimous vote.

During board comments and remarks, John Earl Alston raised a concern regarding how best to address Project Bridge to the community. Director Duncan then provided a project update and discussion followed among the board regarding how best to address the project's various facets in order to encourage success.

A final note was made to address terms and offices of the board at the next meeting.

With no further business to discuss, Claude O'Hagan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Victor Hunt. Duly carried by a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

