

Northumberland County Economic Development Commission
Meeting: February 18, 2025
6-8 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.
2. Roll Call. In attendance were Commissioners: Dr. Karen Pica, Melissa Carter, Dan Corder, and Maurice Johnson; Staff: Drew Basye. Robert Bullard.
3. Discovery Session
4. Agenda Review. Remove Discovery Session and add appointment of secretary.
 - a. No requirement for board members to take a vote for secretary and appoint the Executive Director to perform the role of Secretary.
 - b. Mr. Corder motioned for approval, Mr. Johnson second and the motion passed.
5. Review of January 2025 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Corder motioned for approval of the January Meeting Minutes, Ms. Carter Second, and the motion passed.
6. Commissioners' Corner
 - a. District 1 – Mr. Corder – Callao Brewing company is serving brick oven pizza now. Corner house in Callao remains under upgrades and the exterior is ready. Mundy Point Seafood closed.
 - b. District 2 - Vacant
 - c. District 3 – Ms. Carter – No updates
 - d. District 4 – Dr. Pica – No updates
 - e. District 5 – Mr. Johnson – No updates
7. Executive Director Items
 - a. The EDC attended the Northern Neck Planning District Commission (NNPDC) meeting on January 27, 2025. All Points Broadband provided an update on the progress made in the Northern Neck. Over 1,600 miles of fiber and 23,000 electric utility poles were installed in a massive cooperative effort between APB, Dominion, and NNEC. The next iteration will incorporate any funds obtained through the Broadband Equity Asset Distribution (BEAD) Act. Virginia was allocated \$1.48 billion in federal funds, and this program should complete connectivity through the Northern Neck. APB is hiring and their slogan is “If you have the will, we can teach you the skill” See APBFiber.com.
 - b. EDC participated in the Business Service Team (BST) Meeting sponsored by the Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board, Inc. The meeting was on January 27, 2025. The mission of BST is to ensure Bay Consortium companies across these sixteen counties have access to all no-cost recruiting and training services, subsidies, and skilled job seekers available through regional partners—

all while eliminating duplicated outreach efforts. This was the kick-off meeting for the BST.

- c. Feb 27th V-TOP, interactive workshop on February 27, 2025, from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM at the Northern Neck Planning District Commission (457 Main Street, Warsaw, VA).
 - d. Patrick Alan – Met with Business Owner of No Worries Marine Services in Callao and he inquired of grants for his business and for facilities improvements.
 - e. RMC –Ownership has retired – placed items for auction – had one interested buyer for his building/property.
 - f. Discussed how to promote small business restaurants with Lancaster EDA and talked about the Starbucks and Taco Bell being built in their county.
 - g. Barbara Mait, from the Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club provided the flyer for the golf tournament in June for dissemination. Currently coordinating to have ICYCC present at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting.
 - h. El Padrino – Met with the owner of El Padrino and he discussed how business was slow in January. He attributed it to the lack of customers due to the holiday season.
8. County Administrator Corner
- a. All Points Broadband completed their construction for both phases and are finalizing paperwork to submit to the State for grant payments.
 - b. Planning to work towards obtaining BEAD funds to continue the infrastructure build-out in the Northern Neck.
9. Current Projects
- a. Local Business Presence – coordinating with Hughlett’s Tavern manager, as well as revisiting the bus touring initiative into the County.
 - b. Dr. Pica is drafting an outline for the next expo and brochure. Additionally conceptualizing an info hub for businesses.
 - c. Dr. Pica requests to add the tourism video to County DoStayEat map.
10. New Business
- a. Mr. Corder commended the contractor that performed the boat removal at Lodge Landing
11. Citizen Engagement - NA
12. Adjournment. Mr. Corder motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Carter second. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.