**Regular Meeting Minutes – Development Authority of Walton County**

Date: 8:30 a.m., Monday, February 24, 2025

Location: 132 E. Spring Street, Monroe, Georgia, 30655 - Conference room

Board Members Present: Morris Jordan (Chairman) Skip Baliles Bettye Ray Melinda Dally David Thompson Neal Jackson

Tom Carter David Keener

John Howard

Others Present: Shane Short, Executive Director; Ben McDaniel, VP of Economic Development; Dessa Morris; Jami Cash; Gage Patton, Attorney; Fabersha Flynt (Leadership Walton); James Kean (Leadership Walton); Sarah Dobbins (Leadership Walton)

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. **Adoption of Agenda** –The Board adopted the agenda (removing the item "Appointment of Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary" as said item was handled and prior month's meeting) on a motion by J. Howard, second by D. Thompson, which passed unanimously.
3. **Approval of Minutes –** Minutes for the January 27, 2025, meeting were presented. The Board approved the Minutes on a motion by N. Jackson, second by J. Howard, which passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Financials** **–** Financials for the month ending 01/31/2025 were approved on a motion by D. Thompson, second by J. Howard, which passed unanimously.
5. **Old Business –** 
   * 1. Rivian Update – S. Short stated that top level employees at Rivian will give a start date soon; the loan received by Rivian is secured and the attorneys involved have advised the loan is complete.
6. **New Business –**
   * 1. Workman's Compensation – ACCG – S. Short stated that he has reached out to ACCG regarding worker's comp insurance for the Authority and the premium would be $1289/year. S. Short also inquired with AFLAC regarding life insurance quotes.
7. **Walton Works Report** – D. Morris and J. Cash discussed various initiatives and events, including Career Compass (now uploaded to website); "Be Pro Be Proud" trailer coming to middle school next week; March 7 – Youth Leadership Walton; March 12 – Workforce Wednesday; March 13 – Leadership Walton & Chamber Presentation; March 20 – Industrial Workforce survey and breakfast at Dev. Auth.; Summer 2025 – Ed – Educator externship; March 3- April 24 – industrial maintenance training.

1. **Economic Development Report** – S. Short discussed various projects, including the $300 million investment providing 800 new jobs in Social Circle (PNK building is generating lots of interest), and water supply matters in Social Circle. B. McDaniel discussed the NE GA Economic Dev. Luncheon which occurred last Wednesday; updating website with headshots and info.
2. **Executive Director Report –** S. Short discussed the Walton CountyMunicipal Association's meeting; JDA received another potential lawsuit notice regarding Rivian.
3. **Announcements/Other Business** – Meet and Greet tomorrow (2/25); car show March 15, Monroe and Walton Co. meeting with GDOT regarding north bypass for Monroe.
4. **Executive Session** – None.
5. **Adjourn** –The Board adjourned at 9:09 a.m. on a motion by D. Thompson, second by J. Howard, which passed unanimously.