

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

Date: 8:30 a.m., Monday, May 19, 2025

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

Board Members Present:	Morris Jordan (Chairman)	Bettye Ray
	Melinda Dally	David Thompson
	John Howard	S. Baliles

Others Present: Shane Short; Ben McDaniel; John Ward; Dessa Morris; Jami Cash; Chris Atkinson, Attorney

- 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 on a motion by J. Howard, second by S. Baliles, which passed unanimously.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes for the March 31, 2025, meeting were presented. The Board approved the Minutes on a motion by M. Dally, second by B. Ray, which passed unanimously.
- 4) **Approval of Financials** – Financials for the month ending 03/31/2025 were approved on a motion by D. Thompson, second by S. Baliles, which passed unanimously.
- 5) **Old Business** –
  - a) Rivian Update – S. Short discussed positive developments regarding the project.
  - b) Piedmont Regional Industrial Park Improvements – S. Short stated that the archeological and geological studies were complete and clean for development.
- 6) **New Business** –
  - a) Social Circle Data Center Update – S. Short stated that he met with Social Circle City Council, who are seeking data centers, but the City does not currently have the water supply capacity to meet data center demands. Discussions are ongoing between the City and Walton County on possible options.
  - b) Jim Daws Road Homeowners' Meeting – S. Short discussed the meeting he held to inform nearby home owners on the Authority's plans for the property, which property has been zoned for industrial since approximately 1995.

- c) Darel Drive assemblage – S. Short stated he explored an assemblage of these properties but there are 2 homes in the middle that don't want to sell, which would prevent an assemblage.
- 7) **Walton Works Report** – D. Morris and J. Cash discussed various initiatives and events, including the wage study, public safety tour and Jobs Board email communications.
- 8) **Economic Development Report** – B. McDaniel presented on current projects, and discussed the impact of bath bomb marketing idea.
- 9) **Executive Director Report** – S. Short discussed pending matters.
- 10) **Announcements/Other Business** – None.
- 11) **Executive Session** – None.
- 12) **Adjourn** –The Board adjourned at 9:30 a.m. on a motion by J. Howard, second by S. Baliles, which passed unanimously.