

Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority Regular Meeting Minutes

Minutes: Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Present: Dr. Curtis Lewis, Chair
Mr. Steven R. McGee, Vice Chair
Rev. Earl Williams Jr., Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Ronald Morgan

Absent: Mr. John Carroll
Mr. Chris Patel

The regular monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority (GAEDA) was called to order at 8:18 am by Chair Dr. Curtis Lewis. Administrative Assistant, Kiana Siders conducted the roll call, and a quorum was declared present.

I. Approval of Consent Agendas

May 2025 Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Williams to the Consent Agenda for May 2025. **Motion carried unanimously.**

June 2025 Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the Consent Agenda for June 2025. **Motion carried unanimously.**

II. Legal Fee Reimbursement-Callis Lawsuit

A motion was made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Lewis to authorize reimbursement of legal fees previously incurred by the Executive Director and to authorize payment of remaining legal fees to Allison Jones of Downer, Jones, Marino & Wilhite, L.L.C. relating to the lawsuit *entitled John Callis v. Greater Economic Development Authority and Angela Varnado*, Suit No. 279,724 filed in the 9th Judicial District Court on April 19, 2024. A discussion was held. The roll call vote was recorded as follows:

- Commissioner Lewis: Yes
- Commissioner McGee: Yes
- Commissioner Williams: Yes
- Commissioner Morgan: Yes
- Commissioner Carroll: Absent
- Commissioner Patel: Absent

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

III. **Revised Executive Director Employment Contract**

A motion was made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Morgan to approve the revised employment contract for the Executive Director. A discussion was held. **Motion carried.**

IV. **Audit Report and AUP Acceptance**

A motion was made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Williams to accept the Audit Report and Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) as presented by Mr. Kurt Oestriecher of Oestriecher & Company, CPAs for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. **Motion carried.**

V. **Reimbursement Request-Weiss & Goldring Building**

The board discussed a motion to authorize reimbursement to the City of Alexandria for expenses related to the Weiss & Goldring building:

- Invoice# I0590301 in an amount not to exceed \$60,954.85.
- Invoice# I0590821 in an amount not to exceed \$52,573.25.

Following discussion, the motion **failed due to lack of sufficient votes.**

Executive Director Comments

Executive Director, Angela Varnado requested that board members provide their availability for the upcoming strategic retreat by participating in an online scheduling poll.

Accountant Comments

Accountant John Theriot provided an update regarding preparation to present to the State Bond Commission for the potential acquisition of the Children's Advocacy Network (CAN) building.

Public Comments or Questions

Councilman Jules Green requested information regarding the appraised value of the Weiss & Goldring building.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.