

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority
Special Call Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, January 23, 2025

Present: Dr. Curtis Lewis, Vice-Chair; Mr. John Carroll; Mr. Chris Patel; Mr. Ronald Morgan; Mr. Steven R. McGee; Mr. Earl Williams, Jr.

Absent: Mr. John Callis

The monthly regular meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority was called to order by Commissioner Lewis at 8:45 a.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

Attorney Tiffany N. Sanders administered the oath of offices to Commissioner McGee and Commissioner Earl Williams, Jr.

It was moved by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Morgan to terminate Barbara Bell Melton of Faircloth Melton Sobel & Bash, LLC effective immediately, with instructions to Barbara Bell Melton and Faircloth Melton Sobel & Bash to immediately (i) cease and terminate all representation of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority; and (ii) withdraw as counsel of record in any and all litigation, mediations, arbitrations or administrative hearings involving the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-No

Commissioner Patel- No

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 4 to 2 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Morgia to accept the 2025 Engagement Letter with the Law Office of Tiffany N. Sanders as Legal Counsel for the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority (GAEDA. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-No

Commissioner Patel- No

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 4 to 2 votes.

The 2025 Election of Officers was held.

Commissioner Morgan nominated Commissioner Lewis for Chair. With no other nominations to come before the Board, a roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-No

Commissioner Patel- No

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 4 to 2 votes.

Commissioner Lewis nominated Commissioner McGhee for Vice-Chair. With no other nominations to come before the Board, a roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- Yes

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

Commissioner McGee nominated Commissioner Williams for Secretary /Treasurer. With no other nominations to come before the Board, a roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- Yes

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Lewis to approve the Executive Director's Position Description as presented by Brandon DeCuir. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- Yes

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Lewis to authorize the Executive Committee to negotiate a restructured contract with the Executive Director, Angela Varnado, to be presented to the full Board by February 28, 2025. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-No

Commissioner Patel- No

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 4 to 2 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner McGhee to accept the 2025 Engagement Letter with Oestriecher & Company, CPAs for the annual audit of financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- Yes

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner McGhee to accept the 2025 Engagement Letter from Knight Masden, CPA's. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- No

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes

Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 5 to 1 vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Morgan and seconded by Commissioner Lewis to change the monthly committee meetings time from 8:30 a.m. to hold committee meetings at 8:00 a.m.; and to further change the regular meetings scheduled for 8:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes

Commissioner Carroll-Yes

Commissioner Patel- Yes

Commissioner Morgan- Yes

Commissioner Callis- Absent

Commissioner McGee-Yes
Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner McGee to approve the January 2025 Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was as follows:

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

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 6 votes.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner McGee to adopt the 2025 Budget and the Amended 2024 Budget. A discussion was held. A roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Lewis-Yes
Commissioner Carroll-Yes
Commissioner Patel- No
Commissioner Morgan- Yes
Commissioner Callis- Absent
Commissioner McGee-Yes
Commissioner Williams-Yes

There being no further discussion, motion passed by 5 to 1 votes.

The Executive Director commented that the Board would need to reconsider the 2025 Grant submissions. A discussion was held.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.