

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Executive, Administration and Legal Committee Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Mr. Greg Upton, Chair; Dr. Curtis Lewis, Vice Chair

Absent: Mrs. Paula Katz, Secretary/Treasurer

The monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority's Executive, Administration and Legal Committee was called to order by Commissioner Upton at 2:00 p.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Upton to recommend approving the August 2024 Financial Statements. A discussion was held. There being no public comments, motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Upton to recommend ratification of the August 2024 Accounting Bill. There being no public comments, motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Upton to recommend ratification of the August 2024 Legal Bill. There being no public comments, motion passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Governmental Relations Committee Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Mr. John Carroll, Chair; Mr. Chris Patel; John Callis

Absent: None

The monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Governmental Relations Committee was called to order by Commissioner Carroll at 2:04 p.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

There being no business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Capital Projects Committee Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Mr. Chris Patel; Dr. Curtis Lewis

Absent: Mr. Ronald Morgan, Chair

The monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority's Capital Projects Committee was called to order by Commissioner Patel at 2:06 p.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

There being no business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Economic Development Committee Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Dr. Curtis Lewis, Chair; Mr. Chris Patel Mr. John Callis

Absent: Mr. Ronald Morgan

The monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority's Economic Development Committee was called to order by Commissioner Lewis at 2:07 p.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis to recommend approving a grant request with the Louisiana Early Childhood Association (LAECA) in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for meals at the LAECA State Conference to be held November 7-9, 2024. The motion failed for lack of a second.

It was moved by Commissioner Lewis to recommend approving a grant request with the Louisiana Rural Waterway Association (LRWA) in an amount not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for meals at the LWRA Fall Mini Conference to be held October 14-17, 2024. The motion failed for lack of a second.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Operations & Human Resources Committee Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Mr. John Callis

Absent: Mrs. Paula Katz, Chair; Mr. Ronald Morgan

The monthly meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority's Operations and Human Resource Committee was called to order by Commissioner Callis at 2:08 p.m. Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was not present.

**Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority  
Regular Meeting**

Minutes: Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Present: Mr. Greg Upton, Chair; Dr. Curtis Lewis, Vice-Chair; Mr. John Carroll; Mr. Chris Patel; Mr. John Callis

Absent: Mrs. Paula Katz, Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Ronald Morgan

The monthly regular meeting of the Greater Alexandria Economic Development Authority was called to order by Commissioner Upton at 2:15p.m., Executive Director, Angela Varnado called the roll. A quorum was present.

It was moved by Commissioner Carroll and seconded by Commissioner Callis to approve the September 2024 Consent Agenda. There being no public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Callis and seconded by Commissioner Carroll to approve a grant request with the Louisiana Early Childhood Association (LAECA) in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for meals at the LAECA State Conference to be held November 7-9, 2024. There being no public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Callis and seconded by Commissioner Carroll to approve a grant request with the Louisiana Rural Waterway Association (LRWA) in an amount not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for meals at the LWRA Fall Mini Conference to be held October 14-17, 2024. There being no public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Callis and seconded by Commissioner Carroll to approve for the 2025 budget (which will be presented at the October 15, 2024 meeting), as follows:

\$175,000 To attract events ("Events") to the City of Alexandria ("City").

\$100,000	Alexandria Museum of Art:	\$ _____
	Rapides Symphony Orchestra:	\$ _____
	River Oaks Arts Center:	\$ _____
	Central LA Chamber of Commerce:	\$ _____
	Arts Council of Central Louisiana:	\$ _____

\$500,000 To be spent in cooperation with the City (through a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement or multiple agreements) to provide for the renovation, restoration, and development of property in the City.

\$150,000 To fund overhead expenses (salaries, office supplies, insurance, etc.)

\$925,000      TOTAL

A discussion was held. There being no further public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Callis and seconded by Commissioner Carroll to authorize GAEDA to negotiate a Cooperative Agreement with the Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau ("CVB") to develop a streamlined and coordinated process for identifying Events worthy of funding. The Cooperative Agreement will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for consideration at the October 15, 2024 meeting. There being no further public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to authorize GAEDA to negotiate a Cooperative Development Agreement with the City to spend \$1 million of GAEDA' money in the bank to renovate, restore, or develop property in the City. Once negotiated, the Cooperative Agreement will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for consideration. A discussion was held. There being no further public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Carroll and seconded by Commissioner Callis to hire Brandon DeCuir as a consultant to develop and write:

- A. A job description for the GAEDA Employee who will be responsible for the day- to-day operation of GAEDA and the implementation of GAEDA's programs as defined by the Board of Commissioners (the "GAEDA Employee").
- B. A list of the qualifications which the GAEDA Employee must possess;
- C. A salary range for the GAEDA Employee; and
- D. A template for the yearly evaluation of the GAEDA Employee.

A discussion was held. There being no further public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Callis and seconded by Commissioner Carroll to approve not renewing and allowing to terminate the current office lease which ends on 12/31/2024 and relocating the GAEDA office in office space provided by the City. There being no public comments, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.