

Bland County Economic Development Authority

Authority Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2026 **APPROVED**
612 Main Street,
Courthouse Conference Room 200
Bland, VA 24315

Call to Order:

Mr. Havens, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

The following authority members attended the meeting:

Mr. James Starks
Mr. John Martin
Mr. Wade Hall
Mrs. Linda Townley
Mr. Timothy Havens
Mr. John Babbitt

Members Absent:

Mr. Andy Davis

Others present:

Mr. Stephen Kelley, Board of Supervisor member
Mrs. Cameron B. Buton, County Administrator
Ms. Teresa Tolbert, EDA Secretary

PLEDGE & INVOCATION

Mr. Martin led the pledge to the U.S. Flag and offered an invocation.

AGENDA/MINUTES/TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVAL

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of: MRRP trial membership offer (new business, item c), informational item and a closed session, Section A1, secretary. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Starks made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2026, as presented with a change in Project update provided by Mr. Havens, instead of Mrs. Burton. Mr. Babbitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Townley presented the Treasurer's report. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Project update—Mrs. Burton provided an update on various projects.

NEW BUSINESS

177 Industrial Sign refresh. Mrs. Townley made a motion to accept the proposal from Skyway Outdoor Signs for the park entrance sign replacement. Mr. Babbitt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board of Supervisor funding. Mrs. Townley made a motion to request the fourth quarter funds. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mt. Roger's Regional Partnership trial membership. Mr. Martin made a motion to offer to fund trial memberships—Investor Builder Membership level \$1,000—for Hitachi, Pascor, Wilderness Mountain Water, Virginia Steel and W&B Fabricators, for one year. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Martin made the following motion: "Pursuant to Section 2.2 – 3711 (A) (1), (3) and (5) of the Code of Virginia, I move that the Bland County Economic Development Authority convene a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion of personnel, *more specifically secretarial duty*, real property acquisition/disposition and a prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding, *more specifically Project Iron Bridge and Project Legacy*. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hall. Motion passed.

The Authority retired into closed session.

OPEN SESSION AND CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Martin made the motion that the EDA return to open session and read the following certification:

"Pursuant to Section 2.2 – 3712 of the Code of Virginia, I move that the Bland County Economic Development Authority team while in closed session discussed only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements as previously stated in Virginia Law and that only such matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered." This motion was seconded by Mr. Hall. Roll call vote: Mr. Martin-yes; Mr. Davis-absent; Mr. Babbitt-yes; Mr. Hall-yes; Mr. Starks-yes; Mrs. Townley-yes, and Mr. Havens-yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Townley. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

July 13, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. at Courthouse Conference Room.