**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**WWDA Board of Directors**

**August 6, 2025**

**9:00 A.M.**

**2855 Forest Drive**

**Waycross, Ga 31503**

* **Call to Order**

Chairman James Willis called the June 9th, 2025, meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

* **Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Jason Rubenbauer provided the invocation and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.

* **Approval of Agenda**

Dan Good motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Brian Jackson seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously.

* **Approval of Minutes**
	+ Regular Meeting July 9, 2025

Dan Good motioned to approve the July 9th meeting minutes as presented. Stephen Burse seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously.

* **Approval of Financial Reports**
	+ June 30, 2025

Jason Rubenbauer presented the June 30th financial reports, emphasizing that at the halfway point in the year, the Authority is in good standing. Notably, the Authority is still expected to successfully apply for SPLOST reimbursements pertaining to recent business development projects. Mr. Rubenbauer again highlighted higher-than-expected advertising and office expenses but explained that this is largely due to expenses associated with the development projects, as well as a rapid increase in project meetings being held at the Authority’s office. With no questions or concerns, Rusty Hall motioned to approve the financial reports as presented. Stephen Burse seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously.

* **Community Reports**
	+ Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce

Jason Rubenbauer introduced Suzanna Woodall, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, to the Board. Ms. Woodall invited the Board to upcoming events being hosted by the Chamber. Ms. Woodall also pitched the idea of an Economic Development roundtable that would feature leadership and board members from several local workforce and economic development leaders including the WWDA, DWDA, and Chamber of Commerce.

* + Downtown Waycross Development Authority
	+ Waycross Convention & Visitors Bureau
	+ Coastal Pines Technical College
	+ South Ga. State College

Taylor Hereford informed the board that SGSC is in the process of awarding scholarships, and that current demand is so high, there is a waiting list for students seeking aid. SGSC has awarded over $90,000.00 so far. Mr. Hereford also informed the board that it is a priority of SGSC to renovate the pickleball courts for both student and public use.

* + Ware County Board of Education
* **Old Business**
	+ Update on Gus Karle Parkway Business Park Land Clearing Project

Jason Rubenbauer provided an update on the Gus Karle Land Clearing Project, informing the board that the project is roughly halfway done- ahead of the projected time to completion.

* + Presentation of the completed 2024 Audit by Trey Scott with Mauldin & Jenkins, CPA’s & Advisors.

Trey Scott of Mauldin & Jenkins joined the meeting virtually and presented the 2024 audit to the board, highlighting their ‘clean’ opinion of the WWDA’s finances. Mr. Scott emphasized that Mauldin & Jenkins performs their audits using both industry-standard and government-specific standards when providing their opinion. Additionally, Mr. Scott emphasized the health of the Authority’s total financial position.

* **New Business**
	+ Presentation, discussion, and request for action to modify the current Gus Karle Parkway agreement to include up to $4,000 for the contractor to have the trees and shrubs removed from the ditches.

Jason Rubenbauer presented a request to modify the existing Gus Karle Parkway agreement to allocate up to $4,000.00 for tree and/or shrubbery removal from the area. Michael-Angelo James motioned to approve the amendment. Rusty Hall seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously.

* **Attorney’s Items**
	+ Hillary Stringfellow—Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin, P.C.

Hilary Stringfellow provided an update on a current project with GATX, informing the board that she is expecting validation documents to be received soon from GATX, which will precede a validation hearing for renewal of their bond.

* **President’s Report—Jason Rubenbauer**

Jason Rubenbauer detailed his recent activity, highlighting his recent trip to an economic development summit in which Waycross-Ware County was featured for the recent development and workforce projects taking place in our region.

* **Chairman’s Report—James Willis**

Chairman James Willis did not provide a report for this meeting.

* **Executive Session**
* For discussion of land/lease and acquisition matters pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(1)(B)
	+ Project Alaska
	+ Project Hard Hat
	+ Project Purple
	+ Project Ready
	+ Project Refresh
	+ Project Summer

With no more business to be discussed in regular session, Dan Good motioned to enter executive session. Rusty Hall seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously. The board entered executive session at 9:27 A.M.

With no more business to discuss in executive session, Dan Good motioned to enter back into regular session. Rusty Hall seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously. The board entered back into regular session at 11:01 A.M.

* **Adjournment**

With no more business to discuss, Dan Good motioned to adjourn. Rusty Hall seconded the motion. All present members voted aye and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman James Willis adjourned the August 6th meeting at 11:02 A.M.