



**February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 @ 9AM**

**Golden Isles Development Authority (GIDA) Board Room**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

BILL DAWSON  
DAREN PIETSCH  
WALTER RAFOLSKI

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

RICHARD NIXON  
GREER ANDERSON

**OTHERS PRESENT**

RYAN MOORE, STAFF  
SHERRI PRUITT, STAFF via phone  
MCKENZIE PADGETT, STAFF  
JOAN HEARN, STAFF  
REES SUMERFORD, COUNSEL  
WAYNE NEAL, GLYNN COUNTY  
SHAUNA WILLIAMS, GCAC  
JENNIFER FORDHAM, DCA  
KELLAN SHUFFORD, MAULIN JENKINS  
JULIE MARTING, SIGNATURE SQUARES  
BRIAN WEESE, GICCA  
KIMBERLY BURGESS, COASTAL PINES TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
PAUL CHRISTIAN, ROBERTS ENGINEERING  
DIALO CARTWRIGHT, GEORGIA POWER  
PAM SHIERLING, ISLANDER NEWS  
GORDAN JACKSON, BRUNSWICK NEWS

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bill Dawson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Bill Dawson gave an invocation and led Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ACCEPT AGENDA**

A MOTION was made by Walter Rafolski, seconded by Daren Pietsch, and passed unanimously to accept agenda as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

## **WELCOME & RECOGNIZE GUESTS**

Chairman Bill Dawson welcomed guests.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Bill Dawson invited public comments.

## **CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

No items to discuss

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A MOTION was made by Daren Pietsch and seconded by Walter Rafolski to approve January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Minutes as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

## **FINANCIALS**

### ***Approve November Financials***

Joan Hearn reported that the December financials were in line with the budget at the halfway mark. She also noted the Hillpointe event, the completion of the audit, and the sale of a portion of the Right-of-Way project.

A MOTION was made by Walter Rafolski and seconded by Daren Pietsch to approve December financials as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Presentation of Audit***

Kellan Shufford with Mauldin & Jenkins provided an audit report. He reported a strong year for the Authority with a clean audit and no findings.

A MOTION was made by Daren Pietsch and seconded by Walter Rafolski to approve January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Minutes as presented. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Partnership with Coastal Community Foundation and Lucas Center***

Ryan Moore reported that the item will be tabled and brought back to the board at the next meeting.

## **UPDATES**

### **PRESIDENT'S INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

#### ***FY 26 OKR Review***

Ryan Moore reviewed the OKR's with the board and guests highlighting significant accomplishments from each category presented for the midway year mark.

### **NEW BUSINESS ATTRACTION**

#### ***Norfolk Southern Conference***

Ryan Moore reported that he attended the Norfolk Southern conference, noting that consultants, site selectors, and project managers were in attendance, making it a valuable networking and informative event.

### **EXISTING INDUSTRIES**

#### ***Shot Show***

Sherri Pruitt reported on the annual SHOT Show, the leading global trade event for the firearm and manufacturing industries. Troy Acoustics and SBR Ammunition invited the Authority to participate as an exhibitor, allowing the Authority to display informational materials at both booths along with branded promotional items. The return on investment was strong, providing valuable exposure for the Authority while supporting and promoting local manufacturing. Sherri noted that these industries serve as some of the Authority's most effective advocates by promoting the community.

#### ***Goodwill Job Fair***

Sherri Pruitt reported that Goodwill is hosting an Industrial and Skilled Trade Job and Resource Fair, and the Authority is partnering with them to help promote the event. The event will take place on February 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Goodwill site, and additional information is available for those interested.

### **WORKFORCE**

#### ***Talent Discovery Showcase***

McKenzie Padgett reported that the Talent Discovery Showcase is scheduled for March 6 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at First Friday in downtown and expressed that she is looking forward to another great event.

## **MARKETING**

### ***Marketing Update***

McKenzie Padgett presented an overview of the activity summary for the board and attendees to review noting the ribbon cutting at Hillpointe and Ryan Moore were the top views. Additionally, a new ad that was launched with the top performing post was the Children's Business Fair.

### ***UGA Economic Outlook***

Ryan Moore reported that the UGA Economic Outlook was well attended and reflected a cautiously optimistic outlook for the future.

### ***Capital Trip***

Ryan Moore reported that the Authority will be attending the Chamber's Capital Trip this month, with three Board members also participating. A meeting is scheduled with Georgia's Economic Development Department Commissioner Wilson, and additional details will be provided following the trip.

### ***Business Attraction Campaign***

McKenzie Padgett reported that the Authority will be launching the business attraction campaign this month with more to report next board meeting.

## **GCAC**

No items to discuss

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- GIDA Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 9am at 209 Gloucester Street, Suite 211, Brunswick, GA 31520

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session - Real Estate OCGA Section §50-14-3(b)(1)(B)

Closed Session – Pending or Potential Litigation OCGA Section §50-14-2

Personnel OCGA Section §50-14-2 (b)(2)

A **MOTION** was made by Walter Rafolski and seconded by Daren Pietsch to enter into Closed Session to discuss Real Estate, Pending or Potential Litigation, Personnel. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3-0.

A **MOTION** was made by Walter Rafolski and seconded by Daren Pietsch to return to Open Session. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3-0.

## Returned to Open Session

A **MOTION** was made by Walter Rafolski and seconded by Daren Pietsch to approve the Joint Water Sewer lift station utilities easement as presented, subject to legal review. The **MOTION** carried unanimously: 3-0.

### **ADJOURN**

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Daren Pietsch and seconded by Walter Rafolski. The MOTION carried unanimously: 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:55am.

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*Chairman Bill Dawson*

*Attest:*

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*Sherri Pruitt*

*Director of BR&E / Golden Isles Development Authority*