

**Development Authority of Columbus, GA  
118 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 102  
Columbus, GA 31901  
July 10, 2025 – 8:30 AM**

**Minutes**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Selvin Hollingsworth Charles Ray Sheffield Geniece Granville	Will White Laura Gower
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**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Rob McKenna (Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford, PC), Missy Kendrick (DACGA), Michelle Phillips (DACGA), Andy Hilmes (DACGA), Joe Sanders (Chamber of Commerce), Pam Hodge (Deputy City Manager), Martha Ann Todd (Columbus Technical College), Jocelyn Hilmes, Katie McKenna, Pepper Miller (Law students) and Chie Canady (Japanese Saturday School of Columbus).

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

Mr. Selvin Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM, and a quorum was present.

**Minutes**

Mr. Hollingsworth asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the June 5, 2025 and the June 17, 2025 meeting. Mr. Will White made the motion and Mr. Charles Ray Sheffield seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Charles Ray Sheffield, Ms. Geniece Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Laura Gower voted in favor.

**Finance Report**

June 2025 - Mr. Joe Sanders presented the financial report for June 2025 with Total Liabilities and Equity of \$23,600,988 and Net Income of \$-16,935. Ms. Gower made a motion to approve the financial report and Mr. Sheffield seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

**Budget**

Ms. Kendrick asked the board to approve the budget that was presented in a previous meeting. Mr. White made the motion to approve, and Ms. Gower seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

### **Bylaws Amendment**

Ms. Kendrick presented a bylaws amendment to change the regular meeting to 8:30 AM on the second Thursday of each month. Ms. Granville made a motion to approve the change and Ms. Gower seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

### **Economic Development Report**

Ms. Kendrick advised the board that there is a Taiwanese Delegation that will visit Atlanta on July 16<sup>th</sup> where the Development Authority of Columbus, GA will sponsor the lunch and Ms. Kendrick will present Columbus to them.

Ms. Kendrick shared with the board that there were new requirements for board member training. She advised there will be online options through the Carl Vinson Institute. New board members will need 8 hours and returning members will need 2 hours per year.

Ms. Kendrick introduced Ms. Chie Canady from the Japanese Saturday School of Columbus. Ms. Canady spoke of the history of the school and the reason for the donation request. Mr. Hollingsworth presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to help provide books and supplies.

Mr. Andy Hilmes updated the board on the status of the VECTR Center. Mr. Hilmes advised VECTR should be operational in quarter two of 2026. Ms. Kendrick announced there would be a groundbreaking ceremony held on August 13, 2025 at 10:00 and invited the board to attend. Mr. Hilmes introduced Ms. Martha Ann Todd from Columbus Technical College. Mr. Hollingsworth presented a check for \$100,000 to Ms. Todd to help fund the VECTR center.

Ms. Kendrick informed the board that she would like to encourage existing industries to take part in the ExportGA 2025 class that is offered to better understand how to export goods. Ms. Kendrick stated that she would like the Development Authority to pay the \$895 tuition for any industry that is interested. Because exporting industries are more competitive, more profitable and more stable. Ms. Granville made a motion to approve, and Mr. Sheffield seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

Ms. Kendrick noted that Omega Plastics will make a project announcement in the next week or so. They plan to create one hundred new jobs and will invest \$39,000,000.

### **City Update**

Ms. Pam Hodge updated the board on the Judicial Center construction. Ms. Hodge advised that the city has approved \$500,000 in SPLOST funds for economic development.

### **Legal Actions**

Mr. Rob McKenna advised the board that Project Aurora – Applied Food Biotechnology has not begun construction, and a letter was sent to the company to request a discussion on how to move forward.

Mr. McKenna noted that the incentive period for Path-Tec has ended, and the bond needed to be terminated. Mr. McKenna asked the board to terminate the bonds for Path-Tec. Mr. White made a motion to terminate the bonds, and Mr. Sheffield seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

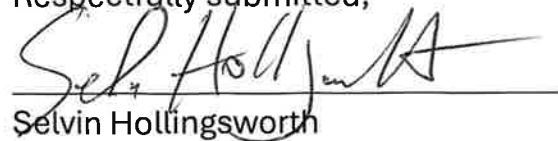
Mr. Sheffield made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and Ms. Granville seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

Mr. White made a motion to come out of Executive Session and Ms. Granville seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

Ms. Granville made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. White seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Ms. Granville, Mr. White and Ms. Gower voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Selvin Hollingsworth", is written over a horizontal line.

Selvin Hollingsworth  
Chairman