

## Technology & Entrepreneurship Advisory Board

Minutes – July 17, 2025

1. Call to Order: Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
2. Roll Call: Chairman Richardson; Directors \* Boman, Rhoades, \*Ritchie, and Pearson were present.

Director Vellidis and Kennedy were absent.

Staff: Holly Wharton – Economic Director, Trey Hildebrand – IT Manager, and Joni Ary – Recording Clerk.

Guest(s): None.

3. Citizens with Input - None.
4. New Business
  - a. Approve May 15, 2025, Minutes and the June 26, 2025, Called Meeting Minutes.  
Director Rhoades motioned for the approval of the minutes as presented. Director Pearson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
  - b. Approve May 2025 and June 2025 Financials.  
Director Rhoades motioned to approve the financials as presented. Director Boman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
  - c. New Perry Resident Survey Update.  
Director Bowman stated that she has received all the input from the Board and will pass along all the information to Director Kennedy for review as well. Once completed, the information will be passed along to the Communications Department to disperse.
  - d. Update on Speaker Series held on June 5, 2025.  
Director Rhoades shared about the event hosted at the Go Fish Education Center: "Precision Agriculture: UGA's Grand Farm arrives in Perry: a day where experts, farmers, institutions, and the community shared the impact of new technology in the field."
  - e. Update on Speaker Series scheduled for August 7, 2025, at the Perfect Pear.  
Ms. Holly stated that she would coordinate with the Sigma Defence Marketing team and the Perfect Pear to determine the best date for everyone.
  - f. Update on Technology-Based Incentive Policy.  
Ms. Holly stated that Director Kennedy is currently working on the policy and was unable to attend the meeting. Chairman Richardson suggested introducing Director Kennedy to Ms. Angie Gheesling,

Executive Director of the Houston Development Authority, to understand the incentives the County uses.

Ms. Holly stated that to aid the Board in gaining a better understanding of the City and its development, she would like to invite Mayor Walker to one of our meetings and have a live demonstration on how the City is utilizing the Placer A.I. software.

5. Staff Items

a. Monthly Updates.

Ms. Holly stated that today was her third day back from Maternity Leave and that she was still adjusting and getting caught up. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

6. Member Items:

Chairman Richardson stated that the "Live2Lead" conference, hosted by John Maxwell, will take place on August 26, 2025, in Orlando, FL, with more information to come.

Ms. Holly stated that Visit Perry is designing an event planner that highlights facilities, venues, hotels, and hospitality resources available in the City. Ms. Holly stated that the Hotel and Conference Center, with a restaurant located inside the hotel, is scheduled to open at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in October. Ms. Holly stated she will contact the hotel to schedule a tour.

7. Adjournment – As there was no further business to come before the Board, Director Rhoades motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Ritchie seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.