

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
March 10, 2025**

Newberry County Council Economic Development Committee met on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:02 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

Notice of the meeting was duly advertised, as required by law.

PRESENT: Karl Sease, Committee Chair  
Travis Reeder, Committee Member  
Robert N. Shealy, Committee Member  
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator  
Rick Farmer, Economic Development Director  
Eric Nieto, I.T. Director  
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Jeff Shacker, Newberry County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker held the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Call to Order – Jeff Shacker, Newberry County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

3. Election of Committee Chair for 2025 – Jeff Shacker, Newberry County Administrator.

- Mr. Reeder made a motion to consider nomination; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
- Mr. Shealy made a motion to nominate Mr. Sease as the 2025 Chair; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.

a. Meeting Turned over to Newly Elected Chair.

- The meeting was turned over to Mr. Sease.

4. Additions, Deletion, & Adoption of the Agenda.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to accept the agenda as presented; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.

5. Public Comments.

- There were no Public Comments.

6. Staff Report:

a. Project Activity.

- Mr. Farmer said project activity remains slow, but he has submitted for three new projects since December.
- Georgia-Pacific announced a \$14 million investment in their plywood Plant in Prosperity.
- There are several ongoing expansions that they will discuss during Executive Session.

b. Product Development:

i. Water-Sewer Extension for MCIP.

- Mr. Farmer said they applied for a grant from the Rural Infrastructure Authority for about \$650,000 to finish water and sewer for phase three. He said they did win that grant, and they

will match that with the Utility Tax Credit from the Newberry Electric Coop so there will be no tax money in this project.

- Mr. Farmer said it will probably be late summer before they actively get started on this project.

ii. Mawsons Way Extension.

- Mr. Farmer said this project continues to inch forward. He said they are in the ending stages of the condemnation process.
- He said they recently came to an agreement with Samsung on orientation of its new entrance and parking lot.
- He said they are near the point to prepare for bids.

c. Prospect Development:

i. Governors' Economic Summit.

- Mr. Farmer said he was on a panel discussion during the summit.

ii. SC Auto Summit.

- Mr. Farmer attended this summit, which happens every February in Greenville. He said it was a great show, and the auto industry is their top target.

iii. SC Power Team's Economic Development Review.

- Mr. Farmer said this will be in Charleston and he is looking forward to attending.

7. Executive Session

§30-4-70 (a)(2) and (a)(5): Discussion of matters incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and related to the proposed location, expansion, or

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MARCH 10, 2025

MINUTES

PAGE 3



the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by the public body, including Projects Night Train, Buckaroo, Delaney, Rose, Coco, Captain America and other unnamed projects.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to go into Executive Session; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
- The Committee went into Executive Session at 5:12 p.m.
- Mr. Shealy made a motion to come out of Executive Session; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 3-0. No action was taken.
- The Committee came out of Executive Session at 5:32 p.m.

8. Comments by and discussion items from the Committee Members.

- Mr. Shealy asked about the Fanara House and if there were any plans for that house; Mr. Farmer said there were no plans other than to tear it down. Mr. Shealy said he has had a few fire departments ask to use that building for training. Mr. Farmer said they are open to any suggestion that makes sense.

9. Adjourn.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion do adjourn; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
- Newberry County Economic Development Committee adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL



Karl Sease, Chairman



Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: 3-19-2025