



COLUMBIA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

971 W Duval St, Suite 150

Lake City, FL 32055

AGENDA

July 17, 2025 8:30 A.M.

Opportunity for public comment shall be in accordance with Rule 4.704. Each person who wishes to address the Economic Development Advisory Board or any discussion and action agenda item shall complete one comment card for each item and submit the card or cards to County Economic Development staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order.

Rules of decorum and rules for public participation are attached to the agenda handouts.

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1. Call to order: Commissioner Rocky Ford
 2. Pledge to U.S. Flag
 3. Roll call
 4. Request for additions or deletions to agenda
 5. Action and Discussion items
 - a. Action items
 - i. Approve minutes from Board Meeting held June 18, 2025
 - ii. Appointment of Vice Chair
 - iii. Request for incentive:
 1. Project Jumping Jelly Beans is a family entertainment center wishing to expand into Lake City. JJB will invest approximately \$3M into a 25k sf indoor entertainment facility, hiring approximately 30 FTE.
 2. Staff is requesting the board to consider incentivizing this project with conveyance of approximately 8AC of county owned land; portions of parcel(s) 35-3S-16-02585-011/012 in addition to an ad valorem tax rebate of 75% of New Property and 50% of Tangible Property Taxes for 6 years per the Business Incentive Guidelines.
 - b. Discussion items
 - i. Potential Economic Development Workshop – September 5th
 - ii. Comp Plan and Land Development Regulations Update
 6. Economic Development Specialist report
 - a. Department of Commerce site visits – July 28th and 29th
 - b. BRE Networking Meetings will resume in August
 - c. BRE Survey Discussion
 - d. Leadership Lake City

7. Economic Development Director report
 - a. Coffee and Commerce review
 - b. Rotary Club – July 31st
 - c. NFEDP County Highlight
 - d. Business In Focus magazine
 - e. Project Updates
8. North Florida Water Utility Authority Update
9. Open public comments to the Board: 3-minute limit
10. Next advertised meeting: August 21, 2025
11. Adjournment

Columbia County Economic
Advisory Board

June 18,2025 at 8:30 AM

The Columbia County Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) met in a regularly scheduled meeting held at 971 West Duval Street, in the Tourism Development Council Conference room. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Rocky Ford followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Committee Members Present:

Rocky Ford, Chairman

Charlie Keith, Co-Chair

Randy Thomas

Jeff Simmons

Joey O'Hern

Don Rosenthal

Nick Patel

Chani Walker

Angela Coppock

Others in Attendance:

Van Brown, Economic Dev. Specialist

David Kraus, County Manager

Olga Armas, Deputy Clerk

Melissa Williams, Deputy Clerk

Additions & Deletions:

None.

MOTION by Charlie Keith to approve agenda. SECOND by Joey O'Hern. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Action and Discussion Items
 - a. Approve minutes from Board Meeting held April 17, 2025

MOTION by Charlie Keith to approve Board minutes from April 17, 2025. SECOND by Joey O'Hern. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Economic Development Recap – Joey O'Hern

2. Economic Development Specialist report
 - a. Duke Energy Small Business Support Grant application
 - b. USDA Grant/Loan Update
 - c. Business Retention & Expansion Group Update
3. Economic Development Director report
 - a. Florida Economic Development Association awards
 - b. Rural Project of the Year
 - c. Innovation in Public Private Partnerships
 - d. NFEDP incoming Chairperson
 - e. Economic Development 101 Symposium; Date TBD

4. North Florida Water Utility Authority Update

Rocky Ford and David Kraus offered update.

Jeff Simmons mentioned to that Board, that he would like to make Shannon Roberts a part of the Board. Van Brown followed up by saying they would check the by-laws and make sure that it is possible, but he is welcome to sit in.

5. Open public comments to the Board: 3-minute limit

6. Next advertised meeting: July 17, 2025

Adjournment:

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.

ATTEST:

Rocky Ford, Chairman

Columbia County Commissioner

James M. Swisher, Jr.

Clerk of Court & County Comptroller



COLUMBIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Economic Development Advisory Board

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners welcomes you to our Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting. Below you will find the Rules of Decorum and the Rules of Public Participation, which we request be followed if you choose to participate. Attached is the agenda for this meeting.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. Commissioners, county staff, members of the public, and any other person speaking during any meeting shall be respectful to the Board and all others and shall refrain from making personal attacks of any kind. Any person who becomes disorderly or fails to confine remarks to the identified subject or business at hand shall be cautioned by the Chair and given the opportunity to conclude remarks on the subject in a decorous manner within the designated time limit. Any person failing to comply as cautioned may be found to be out of order. An individual found to be out of order shall not address the Board for the remainder of the meeting unless permission is granted by a majority vote of the Commissioners present.
2. If an individual is found to be out of order, he or she shall immediately relinquish the podium. If the person does not do so, he or she may be subject to removal from the meeting room.
3. Order shall be observed while meetings are in session. Clapping, cheering, heckling, or verbal outbursts in support of or opposition to a speaker or his or her remarks are discouraged. Interruptions of any kind will not be permitted. All attendees shall come to order when called upon to do so by the Chair. Failure to come to order may result in removal of the individual or individuals determined by the Chair to be disrupting the meeting. Persons exiting the meeting while in session shall do so in a quiet and courteous manner.
4. In the interest of public safety, no signs or placards shall be mounted on sticks, posts, poles or similar structures. Any other signs, placards, or banners shall be displayed so as not to disrupt meetings or interfere with public view of board business.

Adopted by Resolution 2017R-23

RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board of County Commissioners recognizes the value and benefit of orderly participation of citizens during public meetings. To ensure a fair opportunity for all citizens to participate, the following rules and procedures shall apply to all citizen participation during meetings, public hearings, and workshops. These rules are supplemental to the Board's rules regarding decorum.

Public Comment at Economic Development Advisory Board Meetings. Time shall be allotted at the conclusion of each EDAB Meeting item for public comment. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes. The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

Public Comment on Regular Agenda Items. Each person who wishes to address the Chair, Economic Development Director, Advisory Board member or other invited guests regarding a Regular Agenda Item shall complete one comment card for each item and submit the card or cards to County staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. Speakers should speak clearly into the microphone. Although free to ask questions of the Advisory Board and staff, speakers are reminded that meetings are not a forum for debate between the Board Members and/or staff and the public and that responses, if any, shall be directed through the Chair. **The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes per item.** The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

Citizen Comment. Each person who wishes to address the Commission during the Citizen Comment portion of the Agenda shall complete a comment card and submit the card to County staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes. The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

Adopted by Resolution 2017R-23