May 11, 2026 MCIDA Regular Board Meeting Minutes

The Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority met for their regular meeting Monday, May 11, 2026 at 4:00pm in the MCIDA conference room, 17234 Roosevelt Hwy. Bldg. B, Greenville, GA.

In attendance:

Board Members- Mary Bray, Rosla Plant, Allen Parham, and Danny Hosey (via video).

Staff: Jane Fryer and Jodi Sharpe

Guests: Kevin Brown (Seyfarth)- via video, Dr. Griffin and Carrie Chambers (MCSS), and David Pinckney (WorkForce Development)

1. Welcome

a. Call to Order

Chairman Allen Parham called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

i. Pledge and Invocation

Mary Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

b. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made Rosla Plant and seconded Mary Bray. All in favor, motion carried.

c. Approval of Minutes April 13, 2026

Motion to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2026 meeting was made by Mary Bray and seconded by Rosla Plant. All in favor, motion carried.

d. Comments from the Audience

Dr. Griffin reported on the Meriwether County School System. He said that grades 3-8 had completed their testing. The high school students are currently end of year testing. ELA (English Language Arts) scores will not be available until mid October or November because of the change in curriculum. Graduation is next week- Greenville is May 19th and Manchester is May 22nd both at 6:30 pm.

Carrie Chambers informed the board that the CTAE testing had taken place and they were waiting for the scores to come in. She discussed the dual enrollment program with West Georgia Tech that is available to for MCSS students to participate in. (Core Classes and the CNA program)

2. Executive Session

a. Real Estate

Rosla Plant made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Danny Hosey second and all were in favor.

Rosla Plant made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session. Mary Bray seconded and all were in favor.

Rosla Plant made a motion to authorize the sale of 3 acres and the detention pond to Woncheun for $27,000.00. Mary Bray seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion carried.

3. Reports

a. Financial Report

Jane Fryer provided the financial report to the board. Mary Bray made a motion to accept the financials as presented. Rosla Plant seconded and all were in favor.

b. Labor Report

Jodi Sharpe gave the monthly labor report. She said that Jane Fryer and she had hosted Leadership Meriwether last Thursday, taking them on a tour of Mando. Ms. Sharpe said that she had a conversation with one of the supervisors about types of laborers and challenges they had. The supervisor said they needed people who were good at math, especially with decimals and people who came to work. Attendance was their biggest problem.

4. Old Business

a. Keep Meriwether Beautiful

Jodi Sharpe reported on the recent cleanup event held on April 25th:

- Over 100 volunteers participated
- Collected 257 bags of trash plus trailers full of yard debris and miscellaneous trash.

b. Resignation of Wanda Sims from MCIDA board

The board acknowledged Wanda Sims' resignation letter. Discussion was had regarding possible recommendations to the County Commissioners for appointment.

c. Waterline for International Circle

Jodi Sharpe provided an update:

- Water and Sewer Authority approved plans drawn by John Stover at last week's meeting
- EPD application has been signed by the chairman
- Waiting on final copy of plans from John Stover to begin getting estimates
- Initial estimate: $160,000 (below the $250,000 bid requirement threshold)

d. Water Allocation for Shelton Property and Ridgeline

Jodi Sharpe reported on water allocations approved by Water and Sewer Authority:

- **William Valentine (Shelton property):** 60,000 gallons per day
- **Ridgeline Properties:** 10,000 gallons per day

5. New Business

a. Meriwether Forward

Jodi Sharpe presented the Meriwether Forward workforce development initiative:

Concept: Partnership between IDA, school system, and local industries/trades to grow the workforce

Four Focus Areas:

- Soft skill training
- Career awareness activities starting in 8th grade
- Aptitude testing (similar to programs in Coweta and Fayette counties)
- Job shadowing and internships for students with aptitude for advanced manufacturing, technical fields, or trades

Key Points:

- All students would participate in awareness and exposure phases
- Limited number of students would advance to job shadowing and internships
- YouScience aptitude testing already available free through the state (currently underutilized)
- LaGrange and Fayette County have similar successful programs

Discussion: Board expressed support for the initiative. Questions raised about funding mechanisms and program structure. Suggestion to learn more from other counties' programs.

6. Comments from the Board Members

No comments from the board members.

7. Adjournment

Rosla Plant made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mary Bray. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jodi Sharpe, secretary

Approved by:

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Allen Parham, Chairman