

**Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
March 11, 2026**

Present

Jason Dunn
Lawton Tinley
Jason Holt
Corey Gibbs
Hal Wiley

Absent

Ben Braddy

Other

Kyle Cook
Hampton Raulerson
Christina Justice

Chairman, Lawton Tinley called the March 11, 2026 meeting to order at 12:20 pm.

Minutes- Hal Wiley made a motion to approve the minutes from the February Board Meeting; Corey Gibbs seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Financial Report: The FBHCA Financial Report for January and February 2026 was presented by Christina Justice. Corey Gibbs motioned to approve the financial statements. Mayor Holt seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

FBHCDA Director Jason Dunn gave the following updates:

Product Development/Property Acquisition/Building and Land

Peachtree Business Park - Peachtree Business Park development is completed and ready for projects.

The Patriot Tract - Due diligence & planning continue. The owner will be placing the property on the market for sale at a price of \$8k/acre. We will continue to monitor it.

Workforce Development/College & Career Academy

FHSCCA - FLEX – FLEX round 3 finals will be held at the UGA Conference Center in Tifton on April 15th, 2026.

Prospecting/Networking

Project Pringles: We're still in the hunt on this project though the prospect's progress has slowed.

Project Longleaf: Slowly moving along.

Czech Republic: Will be visiting their business incubation center and plan a multi-consulate tour of South GA.

Madison Steel – introduction made to Madison Steel; they are considering building a distribution facility in South GA.

Project Lightning – technology project considering the former Blockstream Site on Frank Rd.

Retention/Recruitment:

Dunn reported that he toured an IHG Hotel representative around Fitzgerald and will be touring Smith Douglas Housing developers around Fitzgerald in March.

Legislative, Policy, etc:

Georgia Forestry Association – working in collaboration to build support for House Bill 1085

Dunn will be participating as a panelist at the Georgia Chamber of Commerce’s 1st annual State of Economic Development.

Entrepreneur/Small Business:

Cottage Innovations: Ribbon cutting to be held on April 7th.

Other Business:

The next meeting of the FBHDA will be on April 8th, 2026.

The chairman gave closing remarks and thanked everyone for their work in the community..

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.