Minutes
Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc.
Board of Directors
September 10, 2026

Members Present

Tracy Jett	Nancy Farris
Chris Cutshaw	Aaron Foster
Kathy Holt	Misty Cameron
Rene Tabor	Wayne Helton
Lauren Carroll	Jim Clawson
Karen McNish	Bettye Carver
Joanie Stokely	Michele Love
Sharon Davis	Clay Blazer-did not sign in

Members Not Present

Roxanne Bowen	Kim Briscoe
Maggie McNally	LeeAnne Strickland
Donna Shelton	Gloria Walker

Guests Present

Joe Shults	Christy Barnes

Employees Present

Megan Barnard	Kelly Reed
Haley Moore	Amanda White
Curt Amos	David Alvis
David Sigler	Anna Mendoza
Tonya Purkey	Tee DeMoss
Tommi Lindsey	Logan Johnson
Penny Blakeley	Jennifer Cody

Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority held our Board of Directors' Annual Meeting on September 10, 2026 at the main office, located at 534 E. 1st North St., Morristown.

Rene Tabor, Board Chair called the meeting to order and verified a quorum present.

Ms. Tabor asked for approval of the minutes from the July 9, 2026 meeting. Ms. Carroll made the motion for approval and Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Sigler presented the Financial Reports. The board received the financial reports prior to the meeting. Ms. Tabor asked for approval of the financial report. Mr. Cutshaw made the motion for approval and Mr. Helton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Barnard reported on agency business.

- CSBG Monitoring Review*-no findings
- OCJP Diaper Monitoring*-no findings
- PY2027 LIHEAP Contract
- PY2027 CSBG Contract
- LIHEAP Supplemental Benefit Payments
- Notification of Improper Payment Study for HS-No Findings-Fiscal Integrity
- All Staff Fall Festival, September 24th 10:00-2:00
- Moving Hamblen NSC 10/31 to relocate to shared space with Jefferson NSC (Ray's Place)

Ms. Barnard presented the funding application update.

- See funding/proposed funding report*
- State Appropriation Agreement*
- CACFP application submitted 7/31
- CAP (Community Action Plan) submitted 8/4/26
- Talent Search ($400,000) and EOC ($308,000) funded for 5 years
- SRAE Hancock County submitted 8/17/26 ($320,000)

Ms. Barnard presented the Executive Committee report. The Executive Committee did not meet.

- Discussion regarding parent complaint-Head Start

The Finance and Audit report was given by Mr. Sigler

- Financial Reports*
- 2024 Approved Indirect Cost Rate*
- Financial Policies & Procedures Changes*

The Finance and Audit Committee made the motion for approval of the committee report. Ms. Carver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Governance Committee report was given by Ms. Reed.

- Program reports*
- Approval of Policy Council
- Community Action Plan Update Discussion
- Annual Report*

The Governance Committee made the motion for approval of the committee report. Mr. Helton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Barnard gave the Personnel Committee report. The Personnel Committee did not meet.

- Honored Retirees/Employee of the Year/Rookie of the Year
  - Linda Phillips, Employee of the Year (Head Start)
  - Jessie Guillot, Runner-up (Head Start)
  - Marilyn Johnson, Rookie of the Year (Senior Nutrition)

Ms. Barnard presented the Nominating Committee report. The Nominating Committee did not meet.

- Board Vacancies
  - Monroe Private
- Policy Council, Chair-Christy Barnes

Ms. Tabor asked for approval of the Nominating Committee report. Mr. Clawson made the motion for approval. Mr. Helton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Curt Amos, Head Start Program Director, presented the Head Start Committee Report.

- Policy Council and DCEA Board Representation
- Annual Public Report
- Program Information Report
- Program Policies and Procedures
- Program Governance
- Self-Assessment, Written Plans & Performance Standards
- School Readiness Plan & Goals
- Laura J Kress Angel Tree

The Head Start Committee made the motion for approval of the committee report. Ms. Carver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Barnard gave the Executive Director's report.

- Highlights from the Annual Report
- Introduction of DCEA Directors, Managers, and Staff
- Next Meeting November 12th

Ms. Tabor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Helton made the motion. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

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Misty Cameron, Secretary

*Committees recommended approval to the full Board of Directors