



economic  
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**Board Packet**  
**May 2026**



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**FloridaWest Economic Development Alliance**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

418 W. Garden Street | Pensacola, Florida 32502  
CO:Lab's 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room  
May 21, 2026 | 8:30am

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## Agenda

- 1. Call to Order** Tilley
  
- 2. Administrative Items:**
  - a. Public Notice (May 12, 2026) Lee
  - b. Roll Call Lee
  - c. Public Comment Tilley
  - d. Approval of Agenda Tilley
  - e. Administrative Review \* Tilley
  
- 3. Financial Report and Minutes:**
  - a. Approval of Board Minutes – April 16, 2026 \* Tilley
  - b. Financial Committee Update (*month ending - April*) Sherrill
  
- 4. Office Reports:**
  - a. Community Demographics Platé
  - b. Triumph / Product Development Update Vredenburg
  - c. Recruitment and Retention Activities Platé
  - d. Marketing Update Gartman
  - e. UWF-NCSU Cost-To-Serve Study Platé
  - f. CO:Lab Items Platé
  
- 5. Other Business** Tilley
  
- 6. Adjourn** Tilley

*Action Needed \**

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# Minutes

## Minutes

**1. Call to Order:**

President Ryan Tilley called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**2. Public Notice:**

Staff confirmed that public notice was published on April 2, 2026.

**3. Roll Call:**

President Ryan Tilley:	Present
Vice President Dr. Charletha Powell:	Absent
Secretary Olevia McNally:	Present
Treasurer Charlie Sherrill:	Absent
Past President David Bear:	Absent
City of Pensacola Appointee Donnie McMahon:	Absent
City of Pensacola Appointee Matt Davis:	Absent
Don Palmer:	Present
Jim Waite:	Present
Rick Byars	Present
Chris Plaeger:	Absent
KC Gartman	Present
Kelvin Enfinger	Absent
Justin Beck	Absent
Mike Morette	Absent
Bruce Vredenburg:	Absent
Dr. Ed Meadows:	Absent
Dr. Marcus McBride:	Present
<u>Staff and support:</u>	
Chris Platé, Danita Andrews, Ashley Saba, Tabitha Lee, Ryan Campbell, Jessica Scholl	

**4. Public Comment:**

President Tilley requested public comment. No comment was provided.

**5. Approval of Agenda:**

Byars moved to approve the agenda; Gartman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Update on Legal RFQ.**

Staff presented responses received to the request for qualifications for legal counsel. Secretary McNally moved to approve a contract with Moore Hill & Westmoreland as legal counsel; Byars seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Financials:**

Ryan Campbell of Frazier & Deeter presented the March financials, including CO:Lab, revenue, receivables, expenses, and payables.

Dr. McBride moved to accept the March 2026 financials as presented; Gartman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Approval of Minutes:**

Secretary McNally moved to accept the January 15, 2026 minutes as presented; Byars seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Byars moved to accept the February 24, 2026 minutes as presented; Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Office and Committee Updates:**

- a. **Community Demographics.** Platé provided an update on employment data.
- b. **Prospect activities.** Staff is preparing for Farnborough in July 2026.
- c. **Existing Industry Update.** Platé provided an update on existing industry activity and recently held first Manufacturing Council. Staff is developing a wage survey in coordination with CareerSource Escarosa. FloridaWest will host an Industry Appreciation Event in October. Platé provided an update on the current projects and project pipeline.
- d. **Product Development.** Platé provided an update on Tech Park, Central Commerce Park, the Bluffs, and Midtown Industrial Park.
- e. **Marketing Update.** Platé provided an update on marketing activities, extended recognition and appreciation to David and Mary Hoxeng for airtime on NewsRadio 92.3, recent in-person social and economic events, and recent social media activity.
- f. **CO:LAB Update.** Platé provided an update on tenants and staff.

**10. Other Business:** Byars and Platé provided an update on the FPL property.

**11. Adjournment:**

President Tilley adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Olevia McNally, Secretary  
FloridaWest Economic Development Alliance