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Belville ABC Board

Joseph "Joe" Henson, Chairman
Tilita "Lee" Alexander, Vice Chairwoman
John Crowder
Richard Trexler
Robert "Gene" Ward

Belville ABC Board Regular Meeting
63 River Road
Belville, NC 28451
May 20, 2025
6:30 PM

Attendees:

Chairman- Joseph Henson
Vice Chairwoman -Tilita Alexander
Member – Richard Trexler
Member - John Crowder
Member - Gene Ward
Attorney - Jim Eldridge

Staff: Tia Clemmons – General Manager
Alexa Causey – Store Manager
Jonathan Hicks – Store Manager

Staff Absent:

None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. and began by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Richard Trexler made a motion to excuse Vice-Chairwoman Lee Alexander

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Richard Trexler made a motion to approve the agenda. There was no conflict of interest. The agenda was approved 4-0

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Member Richard Trexler made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2025, meeting. The minutes were approved 4-0.

Member Richard Trexler made a motion to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes. The minutes were approved 4-0.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

6. CLOSED SESSION

Member Richard Trexler made the motion to go into closed session at 6:36 pm in reference to Attorney Consultation N.C.G.S. 143-318-11(a)(3). The motion to come back into regular session at 7:11 pm was made by Member Richard Trexler at which time Attorney Eldridge stated that the Board had discussed Legal Issues. No votes and no actions were taken.

Vice-Chairwoman Lee Alexander arrived at the meeting at 6:54 pm and went into the closed session meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Report on best-selling items per store-status of extra purchases

Store Manager Alexa Causey informed the ABC Board that the top 5 best-selling liquors for the month of November were:

•	Tito's Half Gallon	484
•	Platinum Half Gallon	454
•	Smirnoff	321
•	Tito's Fifths	270
•	Pinnacle Half Gallon	253

Ms. Causey informed the ABC Board that Tito's half gallons will go on sale in June for \$4.00 in savings and Platinum is on sale now. Fireball minis and travelers are on sale. Pallets of minis will earn \$1,391.04 in profit and Fireball traveler's pallet will earn \$2,172.75 in profit. Chairman Joe Henson stated we should order a full pallet of minis and one-half a pallet of travelers.

b. Alcohol tastings – past and future

General Manager Tia Clemmons reported that April 11th Proximo was at the Belville Store and on April 18th at the Waterford Store. There will be a promo at the Belville Store with Lucky Stash Hexa Partners out of Cary, NC at the Belville Store on May 22nd and at the Waterford Store on May 23rd. Chairman Joe Henson stated that he had been in most ABC Stores from the Outer Banks to Wilmington and they are displaying barrels at the front of their stores, and we should look into doing the same.

c. Status of current staffing

The current staffing status at the Belville Store is one part-time person is needed and at the Waterford Store full-time person is needed. The Waterford ABC Store will move one part-time employee into a full-time position and the new employee will be a part-time employee. Applications are being shared by both stores. Store manager Alexa Causey stated she needs one more part-time person. The Waterford ABC Store has six part-time employees and 1 full-time employee at present.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. General Manager's Report

General Manager Tia Clemmons reported that the Belville and Waterford stores were in 1st place in sales out of the 9 ABC stores located in Brunswick County for April. The combined monthly Sales were 4.23 %. For the first 13 days of May they were down 3.97%. In April, the Money Market Account 1 earned \$864.19 in interest, and Money Market Account 2 earned \$863.04 in interest. The Capital Management Fund earned \$2,721.42 in interest. The ABC Stores received \$4,847.13 in discounts.

Member Richard Trexler stated that the P and L account 6120 looks higher than normal. This account has to do with overages, shortages and broken bottles. General Manager Tia Clemmons was asked to find out exactly what this is.

Vice-chairman Lee Alexander asked if the Maintenance Agreement 7340 is what the budget amendment is on and was told it was.

Chairman Joe Henson stated that it will be the middle of summer before we know how the new store will affect us. He asked General Manager Tia Clemmons to get an update on the new ABC Store grand opening. She will ask for an update.

b. 3rd Quarter Disbursements

Checks for Law Enforcement, Education and the Town of Belville will be written and mailed on May 21, 2025. The amounts of the checks for Law Enforcement and Education are set by the State of North Carolina.

c. Budget Amendment 2024-2025 Member Richard Trexler began the discussion by asking questions about several services and the amount for those services in the budget amendment beginning with salaries, hiring an Accountant \$3,000, Professional Accounting for \$45,000, the Maintenance Agreement for \$9,000, and Alarm Services \$1,850. Member Trexler stated that he and the accountant made several changes from her budget and his budget for the ABC Board so that the budget will balance. Member John Crowder made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. The motion passed.

d. Proposed Budget 2025-2026

Member Richard Trexler stated that the accountant produced a worksheet for the ABC Board to use. Vice-Chairwoman Lee Alexander stated that Member Trexler's numbers and the accountant's numbers do not balance in Member Trexler's spreadsheet. Member Trexler informed the ABC Board that he agrees with her mathematical formulas of cost and the North Carolina ABC Commission provides ABC Stores with a formula of cost also. Attorney Eldridge questioned LINE ITEM 3951 Other Distributions. Member Trexler stated that is what the ABC Board gave to the Town of Belville. There was some discussion about different Line Items and Vice-Chairwoman Lee Alexander suggested that the ABC Board work off of the work sheet one line item at a time.

Attorney Eldridge asked General Manager Tia Clemmons if she sent the budget message to the Star News Newspaper and she responded that she did.

Chairman Joe Henson stated that the state gets 70% of our profits after taxes and other expenses.

Attorney Eldridge asked if we do not get \$350,000 for the Town of Belville where does it come from. He was informed that it would come out of the working capital fund. Attorney Eldridge stated that we need to post the Public Hearing before the June meeting. We will have a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 29, 2025, at 6:30 pm to go over changes made to the budget tonight.

e. NC ABC Conference

General Manager Tia Clemmons asked how many Board members were going to the conference.

There are 4 board members going to the conference. Chairman Henson, Vice-Chairwoman Lee Alexander, Member Richard Trexler and possibly John Crowder.

General Manager Tia Clemmons asked how many staff could go to the Manager's Conference. Chairman Henson advised her that 2 people could go

9. Board Member and Staff Reports

A. Gene Ward - had nothing to report.

B. Richard Trexler – had nothing to report.

C. John Crowder – had nothing to report.

D. Vice-Chairman Lee Alexander - asked about employee evaluations and was told they would be ready in June.

She also stated that she preferred to keep the budget at 7.6 million dollars as requested. Ms. Alexander made the motion to keep the budget at 7.6 million dollars and the motion carried.

E. Attorney Eldridge - Nothing to report.

F. Chairman Henson – Nothing to report.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Richard Trexler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm.