



Board Member Job Description

Board members play a critical role in overseeing the governance, strategy, and overall direction of the EDC. They play key roles in communications, resource development and compliance. Nonprofit board members also have fiduciary duties of care (being informed and actively participating), loyalty (putting EDC interests ahead of personal and professional interests), and obedience (ensuring compliance with laws and regulations).

Vision

Wilkes County has a strong and sustainable economic development organization that facilitates partnerships to grow and strengthen the economy.

Mission

Through the retention and expansion of existing businesses, recruitment of new businesses, marketing, and real estate development, Wilkes EDC will facilitate the creation of new jobs and capital investment in Wilkes County.

Board Member Responsibilities

- Know the organization's vision, mission, policies, programs, and needs as well as understand its collective purpose.
- Closely read and understand the organization's financial statements and board materials in advance of meetings.
- Serve as an advocate and ambassador for the organization and Wilkes County.
- Engage in identifying and securing the financial resources and partnerships necessary for the organization to advance its mission.
- Leverage expertise, networks, and resources to develop collective action to achieve the organization's mission and to carry out programs.
- If appropriate for your role, be a financial contributor, sponsor, and connector to potential investors.
- Provide direction and support to the EDC staff.
- Help identify personal connections that can benefit the organization's fundraising and reputational standing, and influence public policy.
- Prepare for, attend, and actively participate in board meetings.
- Participate in committees or taskforces as needed.
- Engage in learning opportunities to better understand economic development and the community we serve.
- Engage in board development and training.
- Adhere to all policies including confidentiality and conflict of interest and ethical standards.
- Respect the experiences of all who bring their voices and experiences into the boardroom and the organization.

Experience and Qualifications

- Passion and commitment to improve the quality of life in Wilkes County through economic development.
- Interest in advancing the mission of the EDC.
- Knowledge of economic and business development in Wilkes County.

- Public and/or private sector experiences that translate to being a resource for the organization.
- Experience with local and regional organizations that support economic development.
- Experience leading community organizations.
- Ability to raise funds, communicate with public and private investors, and identify funding sources.
- Ability to adhere to the organization's Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policies placing the good of the organization before personal interest.
- Ability to effectively communicate the EDC's mission to the public, community, businesses, and investors.
- Ability to work as a team to address complex community and economic development issues.
- Live, work, or own a business in Wilkes County.