



NORTH CAROLINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Agenda of the
Economic Development Board Tour and Dinner Meeting
May 28 - 29, 2008
Jefferson, North Carolina

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

2:00 p.m. Departing Jefferson Landing Lodge

Tour of area businesses: GE Aviation, Creative Food Ventures, Christmas Tree farms,
and the Barn Quilt Trail

5:00 p.m. Return to the Jefferson Landing/ Free Time

6:00 p.m. Depart for the Glendale Springs Inn

6:30 p.m. Dinner Meeting

Welcome: Jordy Whichard, Chairman, Economic Development Board

Remarks: Richard Blackburn, Chairman, Ashe County Board of Commissioners

Dan McMillan, Ashe County Manager

Bryan Toney - Director, Center for Entrepreneurship, Appalachian State University

9:00 p.m. Depart for return to Jefferson Landing

Thursday, May 29, 2008

The meeting will be held in the Jefferson Landing Clubhouse

- 8:00 a.m. Welcome and Announcements
Chairman Jordy Whichard
- 8:05 a.m. Commerce Department Updates and Activities
Jim Fain, Secretary of Commerce
- 8:35 a.m. Legislative Update
Rita Harris, Legislative Liaison, Department of Commerce
- 8:50 a.m. Small Business and Green Business Funds
Margaret Dardess, Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Alliances at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Medicine
- 9:05 a.m. An Economic Overview
Chris Harder, Senior Economist, Policy, Research & Strategic Planning Division
- 9:25 a.m. Status of the Development Hub Study
Stephanie McGarrah, Assistant Secretary, Policy, Research & Strategic Planning Division
- 9:35 a.m. Break
- 9:45 a.m. Mobile Wine Lab
- Session Topic: Rural Economic Development: The Importance of Multi-county Collaborations
- 10:00 a.m. Industry Clusters and the Rural Economy
Jim Fain, Secretary of Commerce
- 10:15 a.m. Panel presentation and discussion: Rural Prosperity with a Multi-county Approach
Facilitator: *Mike Almond, Director, Appalachian Regional Development Institute, Appalachian State University*
Panelist:
- John Hauser, *Dean, Wilkes Community College, Industrial and Engineering Technologies Division* – history, development, and goals of the cluster development
 - Dan McMillan, *Ashe County Manager* – a public sector prospective
 - Grant Godwin, *Vice President, Martin Marietta Composites* – a private sector prospective
 - Dale Carroll, *President and CEO, Advantage West* – regional partnering
 - Mike Almond, *ASU* - university involvement, economic development sector, and funding sources
- 11:30 a.m. Q&A
Mike Almond will facilitate
- 12:00 a.m. Wrap-up and Adjourn