

**Talbot County  
Economic Development Commission Focus Group  
Run of Show**

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Time:** 8:00 am

**Location:** Talbot County Free Library

**Attendees:**

- Chairman, Deborah Walsworth, CPA, Owner, BSC Group, LLC
- Vice Chairman, Dr. Clifford Coppersmith, Chesapeake College
- Immediate Past Chairman, Ken Kozel, President & CEO, University of Maryland Shore Health System
- County Council Liaison, Chuck Callahan, Council President
- Ted Bautz, Broker, Oxford Commercial Real Estate
- John Horner, President & CEO, Easton Utilities
- Chris Kleppinger, Owner, Kleppinger Electric
- Shannon Potter Dill, Principal Agent, Agriculture, University of Maryland Extension in Talbot County
- Reza Jafari, Chairman & CEO, e-Development International
- Amy Kreiner, President & CEO, Talbot County Chamber of Commerce
- Micah Risher, Manager, Easton Airport
- Clay Stamp, County Manager, Talbot County Government
- Terenda Thomas, Labor Exchange Administrator, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation
- Cassandra Vanhooser, Director, Talbot County Economic Development and Tourism
- Jackie Wilson, Sr. Vice President, Area Manager, Burke & Herbert Bank
- Walter Chase Sr., Commissioner
- David Montgomery, Councilman
- Rob Straebel, Town Manager

**Camoin Materials to Bring:**

- XL, blank sticky posters to capture themes
- Markers
- Post-its

**Agenda:**

<p><b>8:00-8:05 am</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions (Cassandra)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>About the plan and why now</i></li> <li>• <i>Handoff to Camoin</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>8:10-8:20 am</b></p>	<p><b>Project Overview and Today's Goals (Dan)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Brief Camoin Overview – Dan</i></li> <li>• <i>Economic Development Today – Dan</i></li> <li>• <i>EDC Role – Dan</i></li> <li>• <i>Project Scope and Timing – Lindsay</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>8:20-8:50 am</b></p>	<p><b>Facilitated Discussion (Lindsay, Dan)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Context: The Economic Development Commission is a cross-sector group of experts that represents the many sides of economic development. We want to understand the lens you bring to the next stage of economic development in Talbot County.</i></li> <li>• <i>See questions below</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>8:50-9:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Next Steps (Camoin)</b></p>

**Questions**

- I. Tell us about Talbot County's quality of life and how you see it evolving in the next five years.
- II. Please share an example of a recent win, conversation, or current initiative in Talbot County that represents "economic development done right" to you.
- III. What is an economic development and/or tourism initiative that you want to see in your community that's not already happening?
- IV. What are the most significant barriers to economic development and tourism in the county?
- V. What outcomes represent optimal economic development and resiliency to you?
- VI. What statewide or regional initiatives or policies could be game changers for economic development and/or tourism in Talbot County?
- VII. How do you see your organization plugging in as a partner on this strategic plan?