



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NCEDA ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RALEIGH, N.C. – The North Carolina Economic Developers Association (NCEDA) has elected its 2011-2012 board of directors.

The 2011-2012 officers are:

- President – **Bonnie Renfro**, President, Randolph County Economic Development Corporation
- Vice-President – **Linda Weiner**, Vice President, Engagement & Strategic Innovation, N.C. Community College System
- Secretary/Treasurer – **Mark Clasby**, Executive Director, Haywood County Economic Development Commission
- Immediate Past President – **Jimmy Smith**, Director of Economic and Community Development, Four County Electric Membership Corporation

NCEDA's incoming President has been employed with Randolph County since 1996. As Vice President and Existing Industry Coordinator for three years, Bonnie Renfro established the existing industry retention and expansion program for the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation. Renfro has served as President of the Randolph County EDC since 1999, with the primary responsibilities of business recruitment, retention and expansion, and long range and strategic planning for the Randolph County economy.

Active in her community, Renfro serves on a number of boards across the state. She is currently a member of the North Carolina Economic Development Board. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Piedmont Triad Partnership, Asheboro Randolph Chamber of Commerce, Randolph County Partnership for Children and Community Foundation for Randolph County.

A graduate of Oklahoma State University, Renfro received her Certified Economic Developer Certification in 2002 and attended the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma in 1999. In addition, she has participated as an instructor at both the Basic Economic Development Course at UNC Chapel Hill and the N.C. School of Government's economic development seminars.

NCEDA also elected three new board members, who will serve until 2014:

- **Raul Peralta**, Director of Business Development, ECS Carolinas, LLP
- **Mark Pope**, Executive Director, Lenoir County Economic Development Commission
- **Andrew Tate**, President & CEO, Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development

“The 2011-2012 NCEDA Board of Directors reflects the diversity of geography, government, industry and various disciplines represented by our membership. In addition, this team will continue our association’s tradition of strong leadership in support of economic development throughout North Carolina. I commend these board members for their service to NCEDA and to our state,” said Katherine Thomas, NCEDA past president and chair of NCEDA’s Nominating Committee.

The new officers and board members officially assumed their positions July 1, 2011.

About NCEDA

NCEDA is the leading statewide association of professional economic developers and their allies in North Carolina. Its nearly 600 members promote the state and their communities as places for new economic activity. They are on the front line of economic development in North Carolina. Based in Raleigh, NCEDA provides professional development, advocacy and information services for its members.

For more information, visit www.nceda.org.

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