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TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL

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NCEDA elects new board, names 'Economic Developer of the Year'

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The director of Franklin County's Employment Development Commission has been elected to head the [North Carolina Economic Developers Association](#), the organization announced Wednesday.

Ronnie Goswick, who has been in charge of the Franklin EDC for eight years, was named president of NCEDA.

Donny Hicks, executive director of the Gaston County EDC, will serve as vice president of NCEDA, and Scott Hamilton will take over as secretary and treasurer. Hamilton currently works as the executive vice president of the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development.

NCEDA also elected board members Leonard Kulik, a project manager and business analyst for North Carolina's Eastern Region; George Sharpe, director of business development for Lord, Aeck & Sargent Architects; and Michael Trotter, manager of economic development for [Duke Energy](#).

The association on Wednesday also named a Brunswick County woman its "North Carolina Economic Developer of the Year."

Jane Smith was selected for the award based on her involvement in drawing a Mexican chemical manufacturer to a Leland site for a major expansion and in urging state legislators to certify a 1,355-acre industrial site in Hoke County.

NCEDA is a statewide association of professional economic developers. Based in Raleigh, the organization has more than 575 members.

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