

Dr. Alan Hawthorne

Dr. Hawthorne serves as the Executive Director of the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat and of Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority. A Wythe County native, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in nuclear science from Virginia Tech and his Doctorate in nuclear engineering from North Carolina State University. He is a graduate of the Virginia Rural Leadership Development Program administered by Virginia Tech and Virginia State and is currently pursuing certification as a professional economic developer through the Economic Development Institute of the University of Oklahoma. Prior to his work in economic development, Dr. Hawthorne worked for fifteen years at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a federal government research laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, as a scientist and research manager. He is the author of over a hundred scientific journal articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, and topical research reports. In addition to his work with the Workforce Investment Board, Dr. Hawthorne is a member of the Virginia Economic Developers Association, the Southern Economic Development Council, the Southwest Regional Enterprise Center Board of Directors, the Leadership Development Institute and Business Assistance and Development Committee of the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce, and Old Dominion University's Teletechnet Advisory Board at Wytheville Community College. He is also active in local church and civic organizations.