



Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission

10 West Main St. • P.O. Box 209 • Albion, Illinois 62806

Tel: 618.445.3612
Fax: 618.445.3629
www.gwrpc.com

MINUTES: Board of Directors Meeting

March 23, 2017

Old Tyme Steakhaus, Olney, IL

Attendance:

Present:	Absent:
Terry McCoy	Alex Pleasant
Bill Gray	Bill Brian
Gary Sloan	Jerry Donoho
Charlotte St. Ledger	Don Price
Gerald Edgren	Dennis Graves
Randy Hallam	Steve Hartsock
Larry Miller	Rob Dean
Steve McMahel	
Roger Pethtel	
Jim Pfeister	
Joe Judge	
Andrea Hays	
Scott Merkle	
Mike Knight	
Kim Carlson	
George Bohman	
Roy Kissel	
Rob Annis	

Guests Present: Keith Simpson, Flo Simpson, Susan Odum, Paula Dozier, Dennis Turpin, Courtney Yockey, Gareld Bilyew, Bill Hudson, Rod Nolan, Allen Barker, Steve Groner, Brian VanBlaricum, Mike Hall

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Charlotte welcomed new board members Andrea Hays and George Bohman.

Special Guest-

Dennis Turpin presented on "Shared Government Services" and David Savage presented on the SET plan.

**An EDA Designated Economic Development District
Crawford-Edwards-Lawrence-Richland-Wabash-Wayne-White
*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.***

Approval of Minutes

Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman, asked for approval of February 9, 2017 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Scott Merkle to approve the minutes. A second came from Jim Pfeister and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of January and February Financial Report

Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman, asked for approval of the January and February Financial Report. A motion was made by Joe Judge to approve the Financial Report as presented. A second came from Larry Miller and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of 2017-2018 Fiscal Budget

Joe Judge presented the 2017-2018 budget which had been revised slightly from the one that was mailed out. Joe Judge made a motion to approve the budget as passed out. Larry Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee- Larry Miller presented the slate of officers: Joe Judge, Chairman; Rob Anniss, Vice-Chairman; Scott Merkle, Secretary; and Randy Hallam, Treasurer. Nominations were requested from the floor. None being heard, a motion to close nominations from the floor came from Mike Knight with a second from Roy Kissel. Motion carried. A motion was made to approve the slate of officers from Jim Pfeister and a 2nd came from Gary Sloan. Motion carried.

Old Business- None

New Business- None

Executive Director's Report

First let us recognize our outgoing office holders. Thanks to our outgoing vice chair- Mr. Jim Pfeister – Jim has served on the board for 22 years since 1995 and served as vice chair for 17 years since 2000. Thanks to our outgoing Treasurer Mr. Steve Hartsock. Steve has served on the board for 13 years and as treasurer for 11 since 2006.

A Special Thank You to our outgoing Chair Charlotte St. Ledger. Charlotte is currently the longest serving board member- She has served on the board of directors for 29 years since 1988. She served as Treasurer for many years and as Chairman of the board for 11 years since 2006. For the past 11 years, Charlotte has provided the Commission with her guidance and leadership. We appreciate the sacrifice she has made not only over the last 11 years but over the last 29 years! I would like to present this plaque to you Charlotte personally thank you for providing the support and guidance to me over the last 11 years, you have always been there for me during good times and not so good times. You were always willing to spend time on issues we had and work through them together and I appreciate all you have done. I have always trusted your opinion 110% and feel very blessed to have worked with you for so long! For those of you who don't know Charlotte, she has the true definition of a servant's heart. A servant's heart knows that greatness is never to be found in position or power or in the praise and opinions of men, but in servant-like service to others. To quote Matthew 23:11- "The greatest among you will be your servant."

Please take a few minutes this week to read your annual report. From our speakers tonight and the report you can see that we have been very busy this year. We could not have done this without our great staff: David and our newest employee Olivia. One specific item I would like to thank our staff for is the work on the 6 County FEMA Hazard Mitigation grants. The staff spent countless hours over the last 2 years and more in the last 2

months to get the Hazard Plans ready for submittal to FEMA. These plans are essential for counties to be eligible for Hazard Mitigation Grant funds and David and Olivia spent a lot of time working on corrections and edits to the plans before they were submitted. And I am happy to announce that all 6 have been submitted! We brought one copy of each county plan if someone would like a printed copy. We will also have digital copies once the plans have been approved by FEMA.

In the annual report, you will find detail on all the federal and state agencies that we have been working with as well as the work we are doing with our regional economic development partners. We have some great things in store that you heard earlier from David about, including regional employer videos and collaborations between business and education. We also continue to help communities with their infrastructure needs. We do have good news to share. This week we learned that two of our communities will receive Community Development Block Grant funds for residential water and sewer projects. These grants are highly competitive and I want to personally thank David Savage for his effort in acquiring these two grants.

I would like to thank Dennis Turpin for the program on shared government services. As we look into the future, we are always filled with uncertainty at Local, State and Federal Budgets. However, Greater Wabash will continue to work by collaborating and combining resources in any way possible for the maximum benefit of the region.

The next meeting date will June 22, 2017 at the GWRPC office.

A motion was made by Scott Merkle to adjourn the meeting and Randy Hallam seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.