

**MINUTES: Board of Directors Meeting  
September 10, 2020  
Via Conference Call**

**Attendance:**

| <b>Present:</b>      | <b>Absent:</b> |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Alex Pleasant        | Jonathan Goff  |
| Kim Carlson          | Jim Brewer     |
| Randy Hallam         | Mike Knight    |
| Charlotte St. Ledger | Betty Brian    |
| Roy Kissel           | Dennis Graves  |
| Robert Dean          | Steve Hartsock |
| Rodney Ranes         | Wes Harris     |
| Larry Miller         | George Bohman  |
| Rob Anniss           | Roger Pethtel  |
| Joe Judge            |                |
| Jim Pfeister         |                |
| Gerald Edgren        |                |
| Scott Merkle         |                |
| Gary Sloan           |                |
| Andrea Hays          |                |
| Don Price            |                |
|                      |                |
|                      |                |

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Joe Judge, Board Chairman.

**Approval of Minutes**

Joe Judge, Board Chairman, asked for approval of March 26, 2020 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Scott Merkle to approve the minutes as presented. A second came from Roy Kissel and the motion passed.

**Approval of September 2019-February 2020 Financial Report**

Joe Judge, Board Chairman, asked for approval of the March 2020 – August 2020 Financial Report.

A motion was made by Randy Hallam to approve the Financial Report as presented. A second came from Larry Miller and the motion passed.

**RLF Committee**

Don Price, RLF Committee Chair, presented the RLF loan to the board. TM Pizza Mt. Carmel, LLC in Mt. Carmel has requested \$200,000 at 2.4357% for 20 years. Marie Jacobs, owner of TM Pizza Mt. Carmel, LLC is seeking a \$200,000.00 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage loan to fund the purchase of the real estate where her restaurant, Rosati's,

will operate from. Her equity in the deal is the building. The First Bank will provide financing. GWRPC will have the second mortgage after First Bank.

**Old Business-** None

**New Business**

RLF Committee- Alex Pleasant made a motion to approve the TM Pizza Mt. Carmel, LCC RLF loan in the amount of \$200,000 for 20 years with an interest rate of 2.4357% with a second mortgage behind the First Bank. Scott Merkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Executive Director's Report**

• **Open CDBG Projects:**

**Applied for in 2017, awarded in 2018:**

- Carmi – rehab and construction of sewer lines, septic tank and hookups along Marguerite Street. Closeout hearing scheduled for 9/10, the grant will be closed by the end of the month.
- Big Mound – grant closed in December 2019.
- Bridgeport – sewer lagoon rehab. The construction is finishing up. Hoping to close out the grant by the end of October.

**Applied for in 2018, awarded in 2019:**

- Lawrence County – construction of waterlines within the Petrolia Water District. Construction is finishing up, hoping to closeout by the end of the year.
- Lawrenceville- relining sewer lines in the southeast quadrant of the City. The construction is finished, and our office will be starting the closing documents soon.

**Applied for in 2019, awarded in 2020:**

- Grayville – replacement of waterlines. Received Environmental Clearance letter, waiting to receive the NOSA and grant agreement from State.
- Olney – replacement of waterlines. Received Environmental Clearance letter, waiting to receive the NOSA and grant agreement from State.

**CDBG RLF Closeout projects**

- Carmi – wastewater treatment plant. Construction is complete, waiting to close out grant because this project is linked to Carmi Industrial Ave.
- Carmi – Industrial Avenue road project (50/50 EDA and CDBG RLF), currently working on construction.
- Olney – rehab of Elliot Street bridge. The railroad is reviewing the plans, once plans are approved, we can go to bid.
- Mt. Carmel – Oak Street sidewalk. Waiting on the railroad easements, once received we can go to bid.
- Crawford County on behalf of
  - Village of Oblong – replacement of sewer lagoon. Submitted grant application 8/24/20.
  - Village of Hutsonville – removal of current sewer plant and building a new sewer plant. Submitted grant application 8/24/20.

**Rebuild IL**

DCEO released a new competitive funding source known as Rebuild IL. There are four different programs under Rebuild IL. They are Fast-Track Public Infrastructure, Public Infrastructure, Shovel Ready Sites, and Regional Economic Development. Listed below is what our office has applied for or is currently working on. If awarded, GWRPC will received \$40,000.00 in administration on each grant.

**Fast Track due June 15<sup>th</sup>** - DCEO Fast Track award list was announced. We did not receive any, but we were expecting this because the program was "paused" by the time we were able to submit.

- Olney- relining sewer lines – submitted 6/9
- Albion- replacement/relining of sewer lines – submitted 6/11
- White County- HWY 19 repave/rebuild road to solar farm – submitted 6/10
- Mt. Carmel on behalf of Wabash General Hospital- expansion of hospital – submitted 6/15

**Public Infrastructure due June 30<sup>th</sup>** - waiting to hear if awarded

- White County- HWY 19 repave/rebuild road to solar farm – submitted 6/25
- Mt. Carmel on behalf of Wabash General Hospital- expansion of hospital – submitted 6/25
- Mt. Carmel- reconstruction of City swimming pool and public restrooms – submitted 6/29
- Grayville on behalf of American Legion- tear down and rebuild Legion's building – submitted 6/29
- Olney- relining sewer lines – submitted 6/26
- Olney- replacement of storm sewer – submitted 6/26
- Albion- replacement/relining of sewer lines – submitted 6/25

**Shovel Ready due June 30<sup>th</sup>** - waiting to hear if awarded

- Lawrence County on behalf of Levee District – remove/replace levee drainage – submitted 6/25

#### **Downstate Small Business Stabilization Grant**

During COVID-19, DCEO released funding for business owners known as Downstate Small Business Stabilization Grant. These grants were designed for local government and business owners to apply for without the assistance of planning commissions. Our office decided to assist and/or review any applications as needed.

Here is a list of all the Downstate grants we assisted and/or reviewed:

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| • Edwards County  | • Wayne County  |
| • White County    | • Wabash County |
| • Richland County | • Lawrenceville |
| • Grayville       | • Hutsonville   |
| • Albion          | • Robinson      |
| • Carmi           | • Mt. Carmel    |
| • Fairfield       | • Oblong        |
| • Olney           | • Bridgeport    |

#### **Executive Director Training:**

I have been working with Sarah to learn the aspects of the director position.

We have received our yearly dues from every County and City 2020/2021 fiscal year.

The IDOT Bike Path Planning Grant is due September 30, 2020. I have been working with Mike to finish up the study to be submitted at the end of the month.

Our office submitted a DRA grant application for Southeastern Illinois College to purchase new nursing school equipment for the SIC Carmi extension office.

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, GWRPC partnered with Southeastern Regional Planning, and IL DCEO Regional Economic Development (RED) team to host a webinar to discuss the EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance grant through the federal Cares Act. The Deputy Director of RED, Jonathan McGee, presented with Q&A at the end.

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, I attended the DRA economic development forum webinar to discuss the regional strategic plan for the next five years.

On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attended the Workforce Stakeholders meeting webinar to discuss the work structure and transitional changes, CARES Act funding, and the annual goals.

CDBG Grants this year are due September 30, 2020. Currently we are working with seven different communities on grant applications. These communities are Albion, Grayville, Lawrenceville, West Salem, Cisne, Bridgeport, and Olney. A lot of my time has been working on the applications.

As of September 3, 2020, the EDA RLF account has \$317,213.40 and the USDA RLF amount has \$208,857.67.

The next meeting will be December 10, 2020 location TBA.

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