

**MINUTES: Board of Directors Meeting
December 10, 2020
Via conference call**

Attendance:

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

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Rob Anniss, Vice Chairman. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Special Guest

James Murphy with Leymone, Hardcastle & Co. presented the 2019-2020 Audit for the year end March 31, 2020.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Judge, Board Chairman, asked for approval of September 10, 2020 meeting minutes.

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

Approval of March-August 2019 Financial Report

Joe Judge, Board Chairman, asked for approval of the September-November 2020 Financial Report.

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

RLF Committee

Don Price, RLF Committee Chair, presented the RLF loan to the board. Button Bucks Butcher Shop, LLC in Palestine has requested \$150,000 at 2.4357% for 20 years. Steven Osborn, owner is seeking a \$150,000.00 2nd mortgage loan to fund the purchase of the building materials, working capital, machinery, and equipment. His equity in the deal is the building once built, and his three rental properties. the First National Bank of Olney will provide financing. GWRPC will have the second mortgage after the First National Bank of Olney.

Old Business- None

New Business- None

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 and final reporting sent in Oct., waiting for grant manager to close grant.
- Big Mound – grant closed in December 2019.
- Bridgeport – sewer lagoon rehab. Closeout hearing was 11/30, waiting on grant manager to close grant.

- **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. Closeout hearing was 11/30, waiting on grant manager to close grant.

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

- Grayville – replacement of waterlines. Received the NOSA and grant agreement from State. Bidding process will start in January.
- Olney – replacement of waterlines. Received the NOSA and grant agreement from State. Bidding process will start in January.

- **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), finishing up construction, weather and COVID permitting.
- Olney – rehab of Elliot Street bridge. The railroad is reviewing the plans, once plans are approved, we can go to bid. Modification to extend grant submitted to State on Dec. 1st.
- 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.

CDBG Grants this year were submitted September 30, 2020. We submitted seven grant applications. These communities are Albion, Grayville, Lawrenceville, West Salem, Cisne, Bridgeport, and Olney.

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 15th - *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 30th - *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 30th - *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 is 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 |

DRA- Our office was awarded the DRA SEDAP grant for Southeastern Illinois College to purchase new nursing school equipment for the SIC Carmi extension office. The grant award amount is \$23,1000 and the admin is \$1,155

FEMA- We submitted a FEMA Mitigation grant for Richland County in January, and it was Awarded in November. We will start the meetings Spring 2021. The grant award amount is \$47,246.13 and the admin is \$10,000.

IDOT- The IDOT Bike Path Planning Grant final report was submitted September 2020.

Executive Director Training:

I have been working with Sarah to learn the aspects of the director position. The 3-year EDA Partnership Planning Grant is due in January 2021 so I will be working with Sarah to complete the application.

The Rosati's RLF Loan closing was September 24th. The closing went smoothly, and Rosati's is hoping to open their doors by the end of the year.

On October 21st, Heather attended the ITEP Funding and Webinar series.

On October 22nd, I attended the DRA's webinar on the Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Program.

October 27th, I attended quarterly ILARC webinar meeting, where we discussed COVID relief programs and future funding opportunities with multiple state and federal agencies.

On October 27th, Heather attended the Workforce Beyond Business Recovery to learn about building a foundation for operational resiliency.

October 27th, I attended the DRA Opportunities Zones Prospectus webinar. I have been working with other Regional Planning Commission Executive Directors within the southern region on this project for the past year. I will be sending out a copy of the report in the holiday newsletter. If you would like a copy, please let me know and I can email one to you.

On October 28th, I attended the EDA quarterly call to discuss COVID updates, future funding programs, and current program changes.

On November 10th, Heather attended the USDA Broadband Funding Community Connections webinar.

As of December 1, 2020, the EDA RLF account has \$152,542.06 and the USDA RLF amount has \$208,857.67.