

MINUTES: Board of Directors Meeting

December 1, 2016

GWRPC Office, Albion, IL

Attendance:

Present:	Absent:
Alex Pleasant	Toni Earleywine
Roger Pethtel	Rob Dean
Steve McMahel	Jerry Donoho
Randy Hallam	Steve Hartsock
Charlotte St. Ledger	Roy Kissel
David Campbell	Leo Ledeker
Terry McCoy	Kim Carlson
Rodney Ranes	Bill Gray
Larry Miller	W.R. Brian
Scott Merkle	Don Price
Rob Annis	
Gerald Edgren	
Joe Judge	
Jim Pfeister	
Gary Sloan	
Mike Knight	

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Minutes

Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman, asked for approval of September 22, 2016 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Joe Judge to approve the minutes. A second came from Randy Hallam and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of January and February Financial Report

Charlotte St. Ledger, Board Chairman, asked for approval of the September through October Financial Report.

A motion was made by David Campbell to approve the Financial Report as presented. A second came from Scott Merkle and the motion passed unanimously.

By-Laws Committee- The Bylaws committee met on November 16, 2016- 2:00 p.m. General discussion about the bylaws took place. Discussion was held about possibly adding a term limit to the office holders. Everyone agreed that they did not want to add a term limit. Instead, they would like to offer a survey out to all board members so they could willingly volunteer to be an office holder. The surveys will be given to the nominating committee to decide on who to nominate. Slight revision suggestions were made under Article II Section Four, the word monthly shall be removed. Randy Hallam made a motion that the new bylaws be approved. Seconded by Scott Merkle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Finance Committee- The finance committee met at 5:30 earlier this evening. To discuss the financial situation of the Planning Commission and suggest budget revision. A new budget is being proposed which moves a few items from categories and lowers that total budget by \$300. Larry Miller made a motion to accept the new budget with revisions as presented. David Campbell seconded the motion. The finance committee also discussed the need to raise dues. The EDA grant that we receive from US Dept. of Commerce is being increased from \$51,628 per year to \$70,000 per year but we must have a 50/50 match. The dues have not been increased since each county joined the commission. The new dues proposed will be 1 cent higher for most counties with other 2 cents higher. It will make it equal for all counties. The new rate will be \$0.34 per person. In addition to the rate increase, the largest cities will be charged \$2500 per year to be members of the commission. The increase is necessary to keep operational and that way it will not increase the burden onto the counties. Gary Sloan made a motion to charge a rate of 0.34 cents per capita and \$2500 to each city that was over 2000 in population. The motion was seconded by David Campbell. Motion carried.

Old Business- none

New Business- Chairman Charlotte St. Ledger appointed a nominating committee for the annual election of officers at the March 23rd Board meeting. The nominating committee will be chaired by Larry Miller and will include Mike Knight and Kim Carlson. Each board member was asked to fill out a survey on whether or not they would be willing to serve in 2017 as an officer. The nominating committee will take those into advisement when selecting the slate of officers.

Executive Director's Report

Economic Development Related Projects:

***Stronger Economies Together- USDA**

The plan was submitted to USDA on November 2nd. I have passed out the email and notes that I sent out to the PIE group on 11/22/2016 to update them on what we have been working on. We plan to resume these meetings in 2017. The 2nd goal is Business Support. The CORE group is continuing to meet and we will be coordinating and effort to do regional Business Retention visits and enter them into the GWRPC regional Synchronist license. We are waiting to hear if SET will pay for this software or if we will need to split it with the county ED Directors.

CEDS- I am working on the 5-year revised CEDS. The CEDS will be adopted at our meeting in March and submitted to EDA. It must be on public display for 30 days prior to adoption. I will email you the link in February.

CDAP- Grants were submitted on September 30th. We are submitting Lawrence County (Petrolia Water District), Lawrenceville, Cisne and West Salem for Public Facilities and Robinson for Housing Rehabilitation.

DRA- Grayville's Road project is currently under construction at the new industrial park. They have applied to DRA for more funding. The grant request is still pending.

Grant Administration-

CDAP projects- Dundas West Liberty and Noble both have Sewer Infrastructure grants. David has been working on the administration of these two construction grants. We have a Housing Grant for the City of Olney. We are currently working on the environmental for that grant and will begin the housing rehab once the environmental are cleared and the grant agreement has been signed.

FEMA PDMP- the PreDisaster Plans have been extended to December 31, 2017. However, they should be finished in the next couple of months.

Brownfield Grant Update:

We are still working on Phase I and II reports for the region and we are slowly using up all our funding. Phase I reports that have been completed by Terracon: Krumm Building (West Salem), Grayville IP, Hutsonville Old School, City of Olney CIPS Site, City of Olney East IP, City of Olney Benton Site, City of Robinson (Briggs Pottery Site East and West), City of Mt. Carmel (Quality Cleaners), City of Olney (Garment Factory), Olney Main St. Gas Station

Phase II- Briggs Pottery Site East and West, City of Olney CIPS Start site

IDOT RTP Funds-

The State of Illinois as authorized the IDOT Rural Transportation Funding for 2016-2017. The formula is based on population. We received \$18,275 for rural transportation planning. The project is general planning around transportation for all 7 counties.

Energy Now- Funding has been reapproved for the Illinois Energy Now program. We are partnering with DCEO and ILARC to provide grant writing services to the region. We will be marketing this over the next couple months for projects that will involve lighting, hvac, or kitchen equipment or projects such as motors and variable speed drives that will reduce electricity consumption in the Ameren territory.

COOP MONTH- October

October is National COOP month. Kate O'Hara who is our liaison with USDA for the SET project approached me about hosting a meeting to bring awareness on the topic of Cooperatives and how they can be used to create or retain a business. Matt Fowler with Wabash Valley College hosted the event on October 25th. We had 40 people in attendance and representative spoke from USDA in Washington D.C., the State USDA Director, Colleen Callahan and representatives from Western Illinois University.

EDA Funding-

Please see the attached email from Chicago Regional EDA Director, Jeannette Tamayo. Our grant is going up and we will be receiving extra money from EDA. We must match this money 50/50. Our current amount was

\$51,629 per year and it will go up to \$70,000. The Finance Committee has met to discuss this and we will be working on it in the next few months.

Adjournment

The next meeting date will March 23, 2017. Time and location will be announced.

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