

MINUTES: Board of Directors Meeting

March 29, 2018

CoCo's- Lawrenceville, IL

Attendance:

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

Guests Present: Rusty Wanstreet- Area Director for USDA Rural Development, Susan Odum- University of Illinois Extension, Courtney Yockey- Richland County Development Corporation, Kim Watson- Illinois DCEO Will Gibson- Lawrence County Clerk, Steve Groner- University of Illinois Extension and Lawrence County IDC, Bill Hudson- Mayor of Mount Carmel, Don Wagner- Mayor of Lawrenceville, Paula Dozier- White County Clerk

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Joe Judge, Board Chairman. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Special Guest-

Tom Robinson presented for the Lawrence County Chamber.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Judge, Board Chairman, asked for approval of January 16, 2018 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Scott Merkle to approve the minutes. A second came from Charlotte St. Ledger and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of January and February Financial Report

Randy Hallam, Treasurer, asked for approval of the January and February Financial Report. A motion was made by Randy Hallam to approve the Financial Report as presented. A second came from Scott Merkle and the motion passed unanimously.

RLF Committee- The RLF committee met on 3/28/18 with two loan applicants. The committee is requesting approval for both loans as follows: Shawn and Samantha Byrley are requesting \$15,000 to purchase a business in Robinson called PDQ Threads. First Robinson Savings Bank will loan them 80% of the purchase price of \$65,000. They will be including their own inventory and equipment as owner equity. Their business is named Madd Graphix. The RLF committee approved the loan for \$15,000 at 3.6% for 15 years with a second mortgage behind the bank and a UCC.

Danielle Healy is requesting \$30,000 for a startup business in Norris City, Wild Bunch Athletics. The city donated the land and upgrades for a total of \$16,000, First Bank will loan her \$40,000 and she needs \$30,000 to buy equipment and finish the building. Her husband will be doing the labor. She will put in \$10,000 of her own money. The RLF committee approved the loan for \$30,000 at 3.6% for 15 years with a second mortgage behind the bank and a UCC.

Charlotte St. Ledger made a motion to approve both loans as presented, Jim Pfeister seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The RLF plan for 2018 was presented to the board. Scott Merkle made a motion to approve the Resolution of Support for the 2018 RLF five-year plan as presented. Larry Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of 2018-2019 Fiscal Budget

Randy Hallam presented the 2018-2019 budget. Randy Hallam made a motion to approve the budget as passed out. Gary Sloan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee- Charlotte St. Ledger, nominating committee chairman, presented the slate of officers: Joe Judge, Chairman; Rob Annis, 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 Larry Miller with a second from Gary Sloan. Motion carried. A motion was made to approve the slate of officers from Charlotte St. Ledger and a 2nd came from Gary Sloan. Motion carried.

Old Business- None

New Business-

Joe Judge presented the 2016-2017 audit that was completed by Leymone Hardcastle and Co. A motion was made by Scott Merkle to approve the audit, second by Brent Maguire. Motion Carried.

Executive Director's Report

Please take a few minutes this week to read your annual report. Within the report, you will be able to see total awarded grants for each county. As well as projects that we have been working on. Also, in the report you

will find details 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 will be delivering copies of the report to all county boards next week. Over the last year, GWRPC was successful in receiving almost \$1,000,000 in grants for the 7 seven county region. We hosted an elected official training in August and due to popular demand will be hosting another one this summer. If you missed the training, information is located in the annual report and the presentations can be found on our website under local government training. We do have good news to share. This week we learned that the City of Carmi was awarded \$512,000 from the Economic Development Administration to upgrade Industrial Ave. Industrial Avenue currently does not have storm sewers and floods local businesses. The project affects over 100 employees. We will be very busy this year, working on the many CEDS goals including partnering with the schools and businesses to highlight jobs in the region, helping businesses create and retain jobs through the Revolving Loan Fund as well as helping the communities of Carmi, Olney, Mt. Carmel and Crawford County to close their State CDBG RLF funds and use them on local projects. We submitted four CDBG PF grants in December, we are still waiting to hear if they will be awarded. The four include: Boyleston Water in Wayne County, Petrolia Water in Lawrence County, Carmi and Bridgeport.

We could not have done this without our great staff: David and Olivia.

The Planning Commission had our EDA 3-year evaluation last month, that went very well and we are being renewed as an EDA Economic Development District for another 3 years.

We will be conducting countywide meetings over the next 3 weeks. We have already held Edwards and Wayne. We will be in Wabash, Crawford, White, Lawrence and Richland in April. The flyers will be emailed.

As we close the meeting, we have four board members that I would like to recognize for their dedication and commitment to the planning commission. The following four have reached a milestone as board members. When I call your name, please come forward.

For 10 years of service we have Mr. Don Price. He is a representative from Wabash County and serves as our Revolving Loan Fund Chairman.

For 20 years of service we have Larry Miller. He is a representative from Richland County and serves as the Personnel Committee chairman.

Also, for 20 years of service we have Scott Merkle. He is a representative from Wayne County. He is on the Revolving Loan Fund Committee and has served as the Board Secretary for 11 years.

For 30 years of service we have Ms. Charlotte St. Ledger. She is a representative from Edwards County and served as the chairman for over 10 years from 2006 until 2017. She is currently active on the Personnel and Revolving Loan Committees.

The next meeting date will June 28, 2018 at the GWRPC office.

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