

Montgomery County Board

Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 4th, 2013

Time: 7:00 PM – County Board Room

Members Present: Chairman Heather Hampton+Knodle, Megan Beeler, Nikki Bishop, Ron Deabenderfer, Jay Martin, Dave Ronen and County Board Chairman Roy Hertel

Others Present: Sandy Leitheiser and Chris Daniels

The Committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Update/Approval MCEDC:** Next meeting is Thursday, September 12th at 4:00 p.m. at the Annex Building. Lindsay Wagahoff is on board and has had some meetings with municipalities and some business retention meetings. Nancy Slepicka is moving to San Francisco and there will be a reception at Hillsboro Hospital on September 9th at 7:00 pm. MCEDC will need to decide how proceed with grant writing. Hampton+Knodle stated that she and Wagahoff have been in constant contact. Nancy Slepicka is done with all the grant writing for this year. The Summit is held every three years and was last held a couple of years ago; therefore it will be cancelled for this year and scheduled for the fall of 2014.
2. **Update/Approval Planning Commission Update:** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the Annex Building. The Infrastructure component of the Comprehensive Plan will be discussed. Andy Ritchie will serve as a private citizen on the Planning Commission.
3. **Update/Approval Economic Development Committee Priority List:** Hampton+Knodle stated that the committee will be looking at things like investing Coal money in long term infrastructure. Business Retention and other items will be compiled in a more complete list by next month's meeting.
4. **Update/Approval Workforce Investment Board Appointee:** Ken Nimmons is stepping down. Jeff Howell Operating Partner and Owner of All Precision Manufacturing in Coalton will be appointed. Howell has had an interest in Workforce development for years. **Motion by Heather Hampton+Knodle and second by Jay Martin to approve and recommend to the full board, the appointment of Jeff Howell to the Workforce Investment Board. All in favor, motion carried.** September 26th, 2013 is the next scheduled meeting for the Workforce Investment Board.
5. **Update/Approval Revolving Loan Fund Board Nominees:** The MCEDC has nominated Mike Fleming of Litchfield and Patty Clark of First National Bank of Raymond. **Motion by Megan Beeler and second by Nikki Bishop to approve and recommend the appointments of Mike Fleming and Patty Clark to the Revolving Loan Fund Board. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Update/Approval Revolving Loan Fund Reports:** Lindsay Wagahoff prepared the RLF reports for the Committee to review. Megan Beeler asked if the reports can be changed to reflect how long the loans have been out and a loan maturity date. .

7. **Update/Approval Revolving Loan Fund Action:** There has been interest from a business regarding the RLF.
8. **Update/Approval EZ Mayors Meeting:** The next meeting will be on October 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Members will receive a report on EZ abatements for the quarter. The Code Red Emergency Notification System will also be discussed and they will be given an update on the Planning Commission. The Mayor's Welcome Packets will also be distributed.
9. **Update/Approval West Central Development Council HUD Community Development Block Grant:** The Committee reviewed a letter that was sent by West Central Development Council for the County to support the HUD Community Development Block Grant. Hampton+Knodle reported that Mike Cavanaugh of West Central is working with the City of Nokomis. Hertel stated that the County Board Chairman of the Counties in the West Central Development Council Region are over the West Central Development Council. West Central Development Council oversees the Job Center and its Employees. The Economic Development Committee discussed having County Board Chairman Hertel share some communications with the Directors of the West Central Development Council. The Comprehensive Strategic Plan needs to be reviewed and we need to make sure Mr. Deabenderfer's changes from last year have been made. Hampton+Knodle will call Mike Sherer to make some corrections to the support letter regarding the HUD Community Development Block Grant.
10. **Update/Approval Other Business:** Chairman Hertel stated that he attended a Public Hearing meeting at the Health Department regarding the amended Food Ordinance that was presented to the Full Board last month. The lettering system of A, B & C will be revised with a numeric grading system. New Restaurants will get a letter "N" for new business. Hertel stated that the only concern he has heard is that if you have a marginal business, this may put them out of business. The Health Department employees will be making visits to the 200 food establishments to give them a packet of the amended ordinance and new grading system and explain everything and that it would take effect January 1st, 2014.
11. **Update/Approval Executive Session to Discuss Property:**
 - Motion by Dave Ronen, second by Jay Marten to Enter Into Executive Session. All in favor, motion carried. 8:00 pm
 - Motion by Jay Marten, second by Nikki Bishop Come Out of Executive Session. All in favor, motion carried. Time 8:44 pm.

Motion by Dave Ronen and second by Megan Beeler to extend a tax abate to an existing business for a 5 year tax abatement of 100% the County's portion for an investment of \$2,000,000. If they exceed \$2,000,000 then a 6 year tax abatement at 100% will be offered, and to also give County representatives Hampton+Knoble and Roy Hertel the authority to visit with other taxing bodies districts that impact this parcel to seek tax abatements that they are comfortable with. Mr. Deabenderfer felt that this should be two motions.

Motion by Ronen and second by Megan Beeler to amend their motion to approve and recommend extending a tax abate to an existing business for a 5 year, 100% tax abatement on the County's Portion if the investment is \$2,000,000 or under and a 6 year tax abatement at 100% on the County's portion if the investment exceeds \$2,000,000. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beeler and second by Marten to grant authority to Heather Hampton+Knodle, Roy Hertel and or other designees to meet with other taxing bodies impacted by this parcel's expansion and pursue tax abatements from those taxing bodies. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ron Deabenderfer, second by Nikki Bishop to pay the bills. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Nikki Bishop, second by Jay Marten to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Christine Daniels as
Deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder, Sandy Leitheiser.

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