

Montgomery County Board

Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 5th, 2014

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

The Committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Update/Approval MCEDC:** Dave Ronen reported that the MCEDC annual meeting will be on March 13th, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Church Street Pub and that there are over 70 people that have reserved for the dinner meeting. Ronen stated that Wagahoff has been busy preparing for the annual meeting. The Weatherization Class had four people that dropped out.
1. **Update/Approval Central Illinois Economic Development Authority:** There has been no change or movement on this.
2. **Update/Approval Planning Commission:** Beeler reported that the Planning Commission met and reviewed Housing section and that there should be a board member assigned to attend the Housing Authority Board meetings.
3. **Update/Approval Planning Commission Reappointment of Brian Niemann:** Committee discussed approving the reappointment of Brian Niemann for a three year term. **Motion by Jay Marten and second by Megan Beeler to approve the recommendation to appoint Brian Niemann to a three year term on the Planning Commission. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Update/Approval Planning Commission New Appointment:** The committee discussed the need to find a person to replace Andy Ritchie who has resigned. The committee has a couple of people to ask if they are willing to serve on the Planning Commission. **Motion by Dave Ronen and second by Megan Beeler to recommend the appointment of Dick Weis contingent upon his willingness to serve on the Planning Commission. All in favor, motion carried.** Sandy Leitheiser has offered to call Mr. Weiss to see if he is interested in serving on the Planning Commission.
5. **Update/Approval Structural Improvement Notification Permit Process:** Beeler reported that the Finance Committee has discussed the structural improvement notification permit process and has asked Ray Durston to come up with a plan to do some marketing for the Structural Permit process. Durston has worked with Bill Purcell to get information on line and will get some information out internally and that he will also be working on a press release. Ray Durston will come to the Finance Committee with his plan to address the promotion of the Structural Improvement Notification Permit Process.
7. **Update/Approval Revolving Loan Fund Report:** Committee reviewed the revolving loan fund report and balances as provided by Lindsay Wagahoff. The current balance in the RLF fund is \$184,350.84. The two clients have made their monthly payments.

6. **Update/Approval Revolving Loan Fund Policy & Procedure Manual Changes:**
Hampton+Knodle reported that she has been in communication with Assistant States Attorney Betsy Wilson regarding the Revolving Loan Fund Policy Manual Changes. Betsy Wilson is reviewing a couple of sections to define some policy language and will report to the committee next month.
7. **Update/Approval 2014 Legislative Priorities and Input:** Heather Hampton+Knodle shared three legislation issues at the Federal Level that she has been following and trying to get more information to report on. Hampton+Knodle asked the committee members to share any input they may have. On the state level the committee discussed the issue of excise taxes.
8. **Update/Approval Econ. Dev. Fund/Developing Guidelines for Long-Term Improvement Fund:** Hampton+Knodle reported that discussions took place at the Coordinating and Finance Committees this past week regarding the intension of how the 33% will be used. There seems to be a misunderstanding on how this money would be used and the board needs to define how this fund should be spent. Hampton+Knodle stated that it was the intent of the Economic Development Committee to use this money for long term improvements to expand economic development in the County. Other board members feel that the money being put aside in this fund should also be used on Health & Safety issues and county building projects like the new roof on the jail. In the next month, each committee is to answer the question as to what they feel should be the priorities of long term improvement for the County. A list of priorities then will be present to the full board for approval before going to the public. Hampton+Knodle will discuss with the full board the intent of how the money should be spent.
9. **Update/Approval Pillars of Development Town Hall Meetings:** Will be put on hold until further discussion takes place in the next couple of months.
10. **Update/Approval Quarterly Mayors Meeting:** The Mayors meeting has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, April 2nd, 2014 at 5:30 PM in the County Board room. Notices went out on February 24th, 2014 and a reminder with an agenda for the meeting will be mailed out in a couple of weeks.
11. **RSVP for Farm Bureau Breakfast and Coal Mine Tour:** Committee members were reminded that the Farm Bureau Breakfast will take place Tuesday before the full board meeting and that the coal mine tour will take place after the April full board meeting.
12. **Update/Approval Memo of Understanding for Grain Belt Transmission:** The committee reviewed a memo from Assistant States Attorney Betsy Wilson with some suggestions for them to consider regarding the memo of Understanding for the Grain Belt Transmission Lines.
13. **Update/Approval Other Business:** None at this time.

There are no bills this month.

Motion by Megan Beeler, second by Davie Ronen to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Christine Daniels as Deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder, Sandy Leitheiser.