

***Pulaski County Economic Development***  
*(Pulaski County Community Development Commission)*  
Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex  
Winamac, Indiana  
4 February 2014

**Guest Presentation**

Members present: Vice-President David Broad, Secretary David Zeltwanger, Membership Officer Jamie Bales (Francesville); County Commissioner Larry Brady, Medaryville Councilman Derrick Stalbaum, Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey); Greg Comoglio, Andrew Fritz, Krysten Hinkle; Executive Director Nathan P. Origer.

Members absent: President Bill Champion [weather], Past President Rod Button (Winamac); County Councilor Alex Haschel, Amy Jo Cantu (Chamber) [work-related]; Rebecca Anspach [work/weather], Cheryl Stone [family medical]; Assistant Terry Howard [medical].

Guests present: Tom Barry, Jr., President and CEO, and Linda Webb, Chief Nurse Executive, Pulaski Memorial Hospital.

Director Origer introduced Mr. Barry and Mrs. Webb at 6:30 *p.m.*, and the guests then presented on various improvements made, being made, and to be made at Pulaski Memorial Hospital (PMH). They explained that PMH is a not-for-profit, critical-access county hospital, noting that 2013 marked its fiftieth anniversary of service to Pulaski County and the region. The guests made a very informative presentation, discussing Pulaski Memorial's Quality program, recent awards and recognition garnered by the Hospital, and the array of services offered. They informed PCED of plans for growth, including the forthcoming addition of multiple new family physicians, new services, and the expansion of some existing services. A number of questions were asked and answered, including regarding the opportunity for locally provided dialysis treatment and what attract physicians to Pulaski Memorial and this community.

Mr. Barry and Mrs. Webb concluded at 7:12, were thanked for their presentation and for the great service that Pulaski Memorial provides to the community, and departed.

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Members present: As noted above.

Members absent: As noted above.

**Call to Order**

Vice-President Broad called the meeting to order at 7:14 *p.m.*

**Consent Agenda**

With no requests for extraction having been made, the Consent Agenda was adopted.

**Community Reports**

- Mr. Stalbaum: Medaryville has implemented a text-message database for keeping residents informed; approximately 80 percent of residents have signed up. Donated memorial park benches would be arriving soon; property in downtown for a new fire station has been acquired. The Dollar General store is anticipated to open in March.
- Mrs. Hinkle: Four County Counseling had reorganized its community-based programs, with adult and child services now provided by the same division; Mrs. Hinkle is now the Director of Community Based Services for Pulaski County.
- Mr. Bales: Alliance Bank hosted its annual GrowSmart Ag Talk in conjunction with Timm Services and Hudson Insurance earlier in the day; with about 70 attendees, it was a successful event.
- Secretary Zeltwanger: The secretary traveled to Las Vegas for a masonry event from which benefitted greatly. He is likely to undergo a self-certification process later this year, and he has an interest in learning to construct masonry heaters.

- Mr. Fritz: Earlier in the day, following the House, the U.S. Senate passed an agriculture bill after two years of stalemate. Farmers are facing a tougher budgeting process than they have seen in recent years.
- Vice-President Broad: Things have been going well and busily in Winamac: Governor Pence and State Senator Charbonneau both recently visited; Winamac Coil Spring continues its move into the Chesapeake Recycling Building; a tattoo parlor has appeared in downtown; and a pet-rescue shelter is in the works.
- Commissioner Brady: The frequent heavy snowfalls have kept the Highway Department busy, with many trucks in need of frequent maintenance. (Mr. Stalbaum commended the Highway workers on their dedication and professionalism.) The commissioner's brother, Garry, would be returning to Winamac permanently, his Air Force career having reached its conclusion.
- Mr. Comoglio: The Cold Draw has seen an uptick in business. During its previous downturn, more than 2,500 hours of training were undergone by Cold Draw employees. Mike Mestousis is the new general manager.
- Mr. Loehmer: Winter has kept the hardware store busy; the County Highway crew has done a good job of keeping the roads clear. Recent trends have Mr. Loehmer concerned about "stormy roads" ahead.
- Director Origer: Recently released labor-force and unemployment numbers suggest that Pulaski County has recovered healthily from the Great Recession, and that the local economy is heading in the right direction.

### Old Business

*Associated Images' Savor Indiana / ExtraordINary Indiana project:* Director Origer noted that the "Peaceful Pulaski County" episode of *Savor Indiana* had made its television debut, been made available on Associated Images' Website, and been uploaded to *Pulaski Online*; much positive feedback had been received. However, further dissemination would certainly be required for the project to be effective in increasing tourism. The *ExtraordINary Indiana* episode would be debuting later in the week, on Friday, 7 February, at 10:00 p.m. E.S.T./9:00 C.S.T. on Lakeshore Public Television. The *Savor Indiana* episode had exceeded the director's expectations.

*PC-CARE engineering-study proposal:* Territorial Engineering has neared completion of studies on two properties; Director Origer has been awaiting permission from a third owner. Courtesy of NIPSCO, Banning Engineering had completed a desktop review on an additional property along the CSX corridor, finding no obstacles to development in its cursory analysis.

*CAGIT-rate issue:* Senator Charbonneau had expressed openness to working at the State level to make adjustments to the Indiana Code pending local support, but advised to wait until 2015 to address the issue.

*Pulaski County Young Professionals Network:* At a meeting earlier in the evening, Director Origer had met with the PCED committee tasked with moving this project forward; the members would be contacting various local residents to invite them to serve on a steering committee, tentatively scheduled to meet in early April.

*Pulaski Online:* The new *Pulaski Online* is tentatively scheduled to be live by early May.

*Hotel project:* The director reported that this project had been slowed; Mr. Howard was to begin reaching out to local businesses for further information and to discuss potential for investment prior to his medical leave. Director Origer would be taking up this charge in the near future, as well as meeting with the City of Alexandria's economic-development director, who also had been working with Cobblestone on a hotel-development project.

*Revolving Loan Fund cash injection:* The director would be waiting until a decision had been made regarding the requested additional appropriation for the Winamac Coil Spring loan. He also noted that a \$150,000 additional CREDIT appropriation for the County EMS service had been requested, and that such further expenditure could have an effect on the loan-fund request; however, he still intended to try to supplement the fund, the balance whereof would be approaching \$10,000 once the recently approved \$90,000 loan to Celebrations! had been made.

*Winamac Coil Spring incentive package:* Mr. Howard having prepared a loan-agreement draft that County Attorney Kevin Tankersley then reviewed and amended, Director Origer had

provided the agreement to the company for review; he had not yet received feedback. The County Council would be voting on the appropriation request on the following Monday.

In consideration of the limited-agenda meeting and Summit in March and the executive-board work session in April, Director Origer requested that all Old Business items be tabled until May, with discretion left to him to include any item on the March agenda if urgent.

**Motion: Secretary Zeltwanger; second: Mr. Stalbaum; no discussion; approval: all**

#### New Business

*Membership — Ratify appointments:* The director requested approval of the reappointment of Mr. Bales by the Francesville Town Council and the appointment of Winamac Town Council President John Plowman to three-year terms.

**Motion: Secretary Zeltwanger; second: Mr. Fritz; no discussion; approval: all.**

*Membership — At-large slate:* Although he had received multiple suggestions and spoken with those suggested, the director, having conferred with Mr. Bales, had only one name to present: Gregg Malott, CFO of Pulaski Memorial Hospital. He asked that Mr. Malott be appointed to a three-year term and stated that he would continue to seek someone to fill the other vacancy.

**Motion: Mrs. Hinkle; second: Commissioner Brady; no discussion; approval: all.**

*Membership — Officer nominations:* Director Origer requested that members wishing to nominate any of their peers for office do so either in writing or via electronic mail; he would accept nominations through 4 March, and the floor would be opened for further nominations at the March meeting. He reminded all of the offices and the current holders thereof.

*Summit 2014:* The Pulaski County Economic Development would be taking place on Tuesday, 4 March, at 7:00 *p.m.* at the Winamac Event Center; Ball State's Building Better Communities' Dick Heupel would be the keynote speaker. Director Origer would be contacting local media about advertising the event and would be sending direct invitations, as well.

*Summit 2014 — Achievements report:* The director asked the members to report to him with any amendments to the draft provided in time for final presentation at the Summit.

*Annual Chamber funds-distribution proposal:* Director Origer reported that he had proposed to the Chamber Board, which had agreed to such an arrangement, that instead of making two contributions to the Chamber for tourism-marketing support, PCED transfer the earmarked funds into the proper appropriation to expend the funds to cover the bulk of the Chamber's share of the Website-rebuild project; he asked for PCED support for this.

**Motion: Secretary Zeltwanger; second: Mrs. Hinkle; no discussion; approval: all.**

#### Other Pertinent Business

None.

#### Public Comment

None.

#### Adjournment

**Motion: Commissioner Brady; second: Mr. Comoglio; no discussion; approval: all.**

7:49 *p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,  
David Zeltwanger, Secretary