

Pulaski County Economic Development

Pulaski County Public Library
Medaryville, Indiana 47957

April 5, 2011

Business Tour.

At 6:30 p.m. the PCED board met at the office of Rick's Service, 404 N. U.S. 421, Medaryville. The purpose of the visit was to tour the auto service business operated by Rick and Cheryl Stone. During the tour the Stones explained the purpose of the physical layout, various items of equipment, and impact of social media on how they market the business. Rick pointed out one furnace used to heat a portion of the service area that is fueled by drain oil. The owners told of changes in the way they now do business; inventory turn-around time, diagnostic computer updates, etc. Much discussion ensued. The board members thanked the Stones for the tour and their service to the community.

Public Meeting Minutes

PCED board members in attendance: David Broad, Courtney Poor, MacKenzie Ledley, Rod Button, Karrie Sutton, and Ken Boswell. A majority of the current membership present. Daniel Dolezal, Executive Director.

Guests: Mary Perren, Virginia Dolezal, and Nathan Origer.

Regular Meeting Call to Order.

Board President David Broad called the regular public meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. At that time he asked the board to briefly deviate from the agenda to recognize Nathan Origer, executive director designee. David stated the search committee's decision to select Nathan was based on his relevant degree, experience with KIRPC, and familiarity with Pulaski County and its needs. Karrie Sutton commented he has ideas for each county community. Courtney Poor approved of Nathan's emphasis on retaining existing employers. Rod Button said he was impressed with his education background, network base, and knowing what it is to live in a small town. MacKenzie Ledley added the organization was fortunate to have him as director. Ken Boswell thanked the committee for its hard work on the selection process.

David then returned to the agenda.

Approve Minutes.

President Broad noted that the minutes of the March 1st meeting had been circulated electronically prior to the meeting and entertained a motion to accept. Rod Button moved to accept the minutes as presented, Courtney Poor seconded the motion, call for discussion, none, vote to accept as presented, unanimous.

Executive Director's Report.

Dan Dolezal reported on various PCED activities during the month of March. He attended the regular monthly meeting of the regional economic development organization and the agenda

items, a meeting of the EngAGEmEnt project at the community foundation, and, with board members, a presentation by the Pulaski Health Foundation regarding their plans for a new facility. Attended Congressman Donnelly's grant/ funding workshop. Told of the final inspection of the Panhandle Pathway trail extension. Spoke about an inquiry about the industrial park, welder training program progress, and monthly employment statistics. The latter produced much discussion as to why Pulaski County has experienced such low unemployment rates in comparison to surrounding counties. Pulaski County enjoys industry diversity (not all eggs in one basket), a history of locally owned businesses, and a stable workforce.

The monthly financial report was presented. At the end of March there was \$72k remaining in the PCED Fund out of an annual budget of \$90k. The donation fund was discussed. There are two invoices relating to the plan commission's map project. Discussion ensued. Ken reported a disagreement with the engineer firm tasked with completing the project. The consensus was to wait on payment until the plan commission says the project is satisfactorily completed.

The priority list and monthly calendar items were reviewed.

Courtney moved to accept the executive director's reports as presented, Karrie seconded, call for discussion, none, vote in favor, unanimous.

Old Business.

Membership: Karrie reported several names have been suggested and will follow-up accordingly.

Strategic plan update: Dan presented a copy of the plan update through March 31st.

New Business.

Executive director transition. MacKenzie Ledley moved to accept the recommendation of the search committee to employ Nathan Origer as executive director of the Pulaski County Community Development Commission (Pulaski Co. Economic Development), Karrie Sutton seconded the motion, call for discussion, none, vote to accept, unanimous. Karrie moved to retain Dan Dolezal as consultant to the PCED until the end of April 2011, Ken seconded, call for discussion, none, vote to approve, unanimous. MacKenzie moved to pay for the current director's honorarium out of the PCED donation fund, Karrie seconded, call for discussion, none, vote in favor, unanimous.

Job Fair: MacKenzie told of the upcoming job fair to be held at the library in Winamac during the week of April 11 through 16. She asked for financial assistance with advertising for the program. Karrie moved to approve the request for advertising support not to exceed \$100, Rod seconded the motion, call for further discussion, none, vote to approve, unanimous.

President Broad addressed the board. He spoke of an idea to place billboards at strategic locations outside Pulaski County pointing the way to the county. Discussion ensued. Several locations were discussed. David suggested a committee be formed to advance the project. Courtney volunteered to accompany Nathan on a visit to a local sign vendor to discuss the project. They are to obtain a quote for the May meeting. David asked about the availability of county brochures. Dan said there is a more than adequate supply available. Discussion about print medium promotion ensued. The AAA magazine was mentioned as one possible venue.

Dan offered to e-mail a copy of the current membership list to the board. The county airport's plan to expand was mentioned. Key provided some details and said a public hearing is scheduled for May 5th at 8p.m. in the new hanger at the airport.

Community Reports & Discussion.

Rod reported the Winamac storm sewer separation project on Riverside Drive has begun and may finish by October. The new LED street lights have been installed in Winamac and are working well.

Ken reported the plan commission and airport expansion are the main issues facing the commissioners now.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55p.m.

MacKenzie Ledley
Secretary