

Pulaski County Economic Development
(Pulaski County Community Development Commission)
Tuesday, 5 April 2016
former Pulaski County Public Library — Medaryville
Medaryville, Indiana

Meeting Minutes

Members present: President Gregg Malott, Past President Bill Champion, Membership Officer Larry Brady (Commissioner); Darlene Mellon (Francesville), Suzanna Wilcoxon (Medaryville); Natalie Federer, Andrew Fritz. Executive Director Nathan P. Origer, Project Coordinator Krysten Hinkle. Executive Secretary John Plowman (Winamac) arrived at 6:02*p.m.*; Dave Zeltwanger arrived at 6:04*p.m.*; and County Councilor Doug Roth arrived at 6:10*p.m.*

Members absent: Vice-President Annie Scholz [personal]; Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey); Becky Anspach.

Guests: Robert Baker, Brian Capouch, Julie Kasten, Thelma Tanner.

Call to Order

President Malott called the meeting to order at 6:01*p.m.*

Consent Agenda

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

Community Reports

- Mr. Champion: Fratco has purchased new equipment, for which a tax abatement is being requested, and is otherwise doing well.
- Ms. Wilcoxon: The clean-up effort in Medaryville is a process, but continues to progress.
- Mrs. Mellon: Francesville is following Medaryville's lead in a clean-up effort, in part due to the town marshal, who is doing a wonderful job enforcing the ordinance. The Town is also seeking grants for a recycling center. Mrs. Mellon also stated that Francesville is making progress toward a Main Street designation. Discussion ensued regarding ideas for grants.
- Commissioner Brady: Commissioner Brady attended Purdue Road School in March and spoke about the release of INDOT funds for the "Common Paths Initiative", which will fund trails, bike paths, *et c.*, in small communities. The program will last two years and will provide roughly \$5-million altogether. The County is currently working on creating an asset management plan for roads and bridges to secure future road funding. Several questions were presented regarding the implementation of the asset management plan. Commissioner Brady also announced that as a result of Senate Bill 1001, Pulaski County will be receiving \$2.4-million in additional road funding.
- President Malott: The hospital is progressing with expansion plans, which include physician offices, in addition to the recruitment of new physicians. They are also looking at nursing home partnerships, in which the hospital would be affiliated with certain nursing homes through licensing and management agreements. Additionally, the Community Foundation of Pulaski County recently implanted a matching program with a \$500,000 goal, which they achieved. Lilly Endowment matched these funds at varying rates. President Malott thanked everybody in the community who donated.
- Secretary Plowman: Link Environmental is still working on the new website, which is taking slightly longer than anticipated. They also have a new line of high-end coolers available for sale. The Winamac Plan Commission met last week and denied the County's request to re-zone the county home, due to concerns regarding spot-zoning. Discussion ensued.
- Mr. Zeltwanger: Masonry is picking up due to the warmer weather. The Las Vegas trade show went great, and Mr. Zeltwanger reported that he sold some products. He continues to attempt diversification of his business.
- Dr. Federer: The Historical Society held its annual meeting and presentation about the Ford Pinto trial, which 2-7 July. They recently participated in ADA compliancy reviews last fall in collaboration with Purdue and the Town of Winamac. Purdue Extension is working with Ivy Tech to offer college courses in Winamac and is also working closely with the CDC and an advisory committee to establish a Leadership Pulaski County program.

- Mr. Fritz: Farmers are currently working on budgets, and the numbers seem to be better than anticipated. Planting is imminent, as soon as the soil reaches proper temperatures.
- Councilor Roth: Winamac Coil Spring is starting to see a rebound. The County Council is preparing for Monday night's public meeting regarding the courthouse renovation, which promises to be a full house.

Old Business

Hometown Collaboration Initiative: The HCI committee has finished the tourism strategic plan that was required and the capstone project proposal is close to being completed and submitted. KIRPC, the Highway Department, and the county commissioners have all been very supportive and are on board with the next steps to implementing the countywide bike route project.

PC-CARE: The owners of the property, due to capital-gains-tax issues, will need to acquire a specific amount of land as part of a 1031 transaction to make the project work. Director Origer stated that because of this, the project is once again at a stand-still. Discussion ensued.

Career and Technical Education curriculum grant: Director Origer has met with several stakeholders regarding recruiting the appropriate instructor to teach the program, who was recommended by the plant manager at GalFab. There are no exact numbers, but West Central reports several students who are interested in enrolling in the program.

Term renewals/new members: There are still two vacancies on the Commission. The Chamber of Commerce cannot find a member who is able to attend, based on scheduling. The other vacancy is for a non-exempt manufacturing member, which is also challenging due to scheduling.

New Business

CDC summer internship: Director Origer requested permission from the board to hire an intern to do a wide variety of tasks, but with a special focus on tourism marketing. There wouldn't be a need for any additional appropriations or transfers of funds.

Motion: Dr. Federer; second: Mr. Champion; Secretary Plowman requested further discussion.

Mr. Plowman inquired as to the pay and hours of the intern position. Councilor Roth suggested that the pay would be around \$10 an hour, but that he would verify that with the Auditor's Office. Director Origer stated that he would like somebody for about 21 hours per week.

Approval: all.

Other Business Deemed to Be Necessary

Winamac Main Street organization: Secretary Plowman inquired as to how the Winamac Main Street organization is faring. Director Origer reported that it's been well attended, bylaws have been drafted, and that the organization seems to be making good progress.

Public Comment

Robert Baker: Mr. Baker inquired into the asset management program and what, if any, effect it would have on the proposed rail-served industrial park in Medaryville. Commissioner Brady responded in detail about the priority process and how that priority list is created. He also explained the funding relationship among state, county, and towns in road and bridge maintenance and new legislation that has impacted the County and the Town of Medaryville. Mr. Baker also requested a second recycling bin for Medaryville. Commissioner Brady took Mr. Baker's information and will be in contact with him.

Thelma Tanner: Mrs. Tanner inquired as to how the Pulaski County Community Development Commission was funded and the annual budget. Director Origer explained the funding for the CDC and provided the total annual budget, which for 2016 is \$256,576.60.

Brian Capouch: Mr. Capouch requested the Commission to introduce themselves and what sectors they represent, to which the Commission happily obliged.

Adjournment

Motion: Secretary Plowman; second: Mr. Champion; no discussion; approval all.
6:55p.m.

Krysten Hinkle, Project Coordinator/Administrative Secretary
John Plowman, Executive Secretary