Pulaski County Economic Development

(Pulaski County Community Development Commission)
Tuesday, 2 August 2016
Monterey Town Hall
Monterey, Indiana

Meeting Minutes

Members present: President Gregg Malott, Vice-President Annie Scholz, Executive Secretary John Plowman (Winamac), Membership Officer Larry Brady (Commissioner); Darlene Mellon (Francesville), Suzanna Wilcoxon (Medaryville); Dave Zeltwanger. Executive Director Nathan P. Origer, Project Coordinator Krysten Hinkle. County Councilor Doug Roth arrived at 6:06p.m. Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey) arrived at 6:15p.m.

Members absent: Past President Bill Champion [personal]; Natalie Federer [personal], Andrew Fritz; Intern Karli Armstrong [attendance not required].

Guests: Linda McCune, Monterey Clerk-Treasurer; Aaron Paulsen, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Call to Order

President Malott called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Consent Agenda

On the director's request, approval of the agenda and membership action were extracted from the consent agenda, and the agenda was adopted as amended.

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

Membership Action

Director Origer presented Aaron Paulsen, whom the Chamber of Commerce Board had appointed to fill the seat vacated when Amy Cantu's term ended in February. Mr. Paulsen spoke briefly about himself, a few members spoke, and the appointment was accepted.

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

Old Business

Hometown Collaboration Initiative: Director Origer noted that the HCI committee had met for a final time and abolished itself. More road testing by cyclists is needed, but, otherwise, the bikeroute project has been moving forward ahead of schedule. The State signature process having been completed, funds could now be withdrawn as needed. Responding to Commissioner Brady, the director confirmed that the grant funds could be expended solely on costs related to the project, and that no money could be deposited into the General Fund.

PC-CARE: The director reported that the Advisory Commission on Industrial Development had green-lighted the sale of 97 acres of County Farm property for the purpose of using the proceeds to acquire the 55.5-acre Medaryville site for development, capping the purchase price at \$10,500 per acre and insisting that a letter of intent be signed by the landowner before the County Commissioners move forward with the sale. Significant discussion ensued, including regarding drainage at the site and having a contingency plan if the landowner refuse the maximum purchase price. Regarding purchase price, Vice-President Scholz emphasized that, as-is, the Medaryville land is not development-ready, and the owners would never be able to sell it for the amount that it would fetch as industrial land. Director Origer requested approval to propose to the County Commissioners the sale of the County Farm land for the purpose stated above.

Motion: Secretary Plowman; second: Vice-President Scholz; no discussion; approval: all

Career and Technical Education curriculum grant: Other than determining which organization would be responsible for hiring the adjunct teacher as a contract employee, everything had come together, with about 40 students enrolled in the first two offerings of the first required class in the RAM-Tech program.

2017 budget: Because the County Council had yet to hold budget meetings, no update could be provided, other than that the staff are grateful to have included funding for interns in the budget, having had such success over the past few months with the first student-workers.

Wage-and-benefit survey: Having been informed that the company that provides Pulaski County's healthcare insurance may have access to a large amount of the data sought to be collected through the survey, Director Origer had postponed the survey until he and the Pulaski County Human Resources Group could review the available data.

Francesville and Winamac Main Street organizations: Mrs. Mellon reported that the UpTown Project, Francesville's Main Street organization, had hosted a very successful downtown movie showing and would be hosting a bluegrass band in the near future. The group's bylaws still needed to be tweaked before the Main Street application could be submitted to the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA).

Director Origer noted that Wander Our Winamac! would be meeting on the next evening, after which they group had hoped to be able to submit its application to OCRA.

Adopt-a-river program: The director had not yet completed the required paperwork for the State's Adopt-a-Ramp program, but signage had been designed, and the State officials had informally approved the project and signage.

New Business

None.

Other Business Deemed to Be Necessary

TorchFest: Mr. Zeltwanger enquired as to the status of the planned Indiana Bicentennial celebration; Mrs. Hinkle noted that work is underway, and that more information would be provided soon. Secretary Plowman reported that the Friends of the Panhandle Pathway's Tippecanoe and Bicycles, Too ride, a recognized Bicentennial legacy project, would be taking place on the coming Saturday.

Commission vacancy: Director Origer reported that a few individuals had expressed interest in filling the recently vacated seat, but only one had thus far formally submitted himself for consideration and provided a résumé, which the director distributed. President Malott suggested tabling the decision until any other interested persons had formally expressed or retracted interest.

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

Public Comment

None.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion: Secretary Plowman; second: Commissioner Brady; no discussion; approval all. 7:07p.m.

Nathan P. Origer, Executive Director/Administrative Secretary *pro tempore* John Plowman, Executive Secretary