

***Pulaski County Economic Development***  
*(Pulaski County Community Development Commission)*

Tuesday, 7 February 2017

Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex  
Winamac, Indiana

**Meeting Minutes**

Members present: President Gregg Malott, Vice-President Annie Scholz,; Aaron Paulsen (Chamber); Natalie Federer, Andrew Fritz, Beth Grund, Ross Davis. Executive Director Nathan P. Origer, Project Coordinator Krysten Hinkle.

Members absent: Executive Secretary John Plowman (Winamac) [personal], Past President Bill Champion [personal], Membership Officer Larry Brady (County Commissioners); Doug Roth (County Council) [personal], Darlene Mellon (Francesville) [personal], Medaryville Councilor Suzanna Wilcoxon [personal] Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey) [personal]; Dave Zeltwanger [business].

Guests: Samantha Williams.

**Call to Order**

President Malott called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m. Director Origer noted the lack of quorum and then introduced new member Ross Davis and incoming member Samantha Williams, whose term would begin on 1 March.

**Appointment of Executive Secretary *pro tempore***

In the absence of Secretary Plowman, Ms. Grund agreed to serve *pro tempore*.

**Consent Agenda**

No action was taken.

**Membership Action**

No action was taken. Director Origer reviewed the list of candidates and discussed the qualifications of each. Brief discussion ensued, and the director asked members to offer any insights that they so wished prior to the March meeting. He also noted that, as a formality, Auditor Laura Wheeler's appointment by the County Commissioners would have to be confirmed in March.

**Old Business**

*Hometown Collaboration Initiative:* Director Origer reported that Mrs. Hinkle had been making contacts for the tourism advisory council. He also reported that all that is left to complete is the final map, the naming of the routes, printing of brochures, and signage.

*PC-CARE:* Director Origer had had contact with a business owner looking to expand operations in a biofuel/agricultural-related field and wanted to obtain information for the proposed west-side industrial park. He reported that he has an appointment with the County Council next week in regards to the industrial park and that he would report, without giving too many details, on the prospect, although he remained skeptical of the Council's reception.

*RAM-Tech program:* The adjunct instructor would finally be paid after many hiccups had delayed the payment schedule. He would be reimbursed for his work since the beginning of the school year. Two Winamac Coil Spring executives visited the classroom recently and expressed their support for the program. Commissioner Jerry Locke had also expressed interest in visiting the class. Additionally, Director Origer stated that the program would be approximately \$2,000 short in funding because he had not taken into account the Community Foundation's administration fees.

*Wage-and-benefit survey:* The document is under development and Director Origer would be presenting it for first review at the March Human Resources Group meeting.

*Francesville and Winamac Main Street organizations:* WOW would be working on a minor organizational restructure for better efficacy. The director would be attending the general membership meeting of the UpTown Project on Thursday.

*Adopt-a-River program:* Mrs. Hinkle had reached out to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for clarification on the volunteer process. A recent visitor to the office had suggested using dumpsters, which would be emptied, rather than volunteers. Discussion ensued.

*Pulaski County Industrial Leadership Certificate program:* The Industrial Forum would meet later in the week, at which time the program would be discussed. Attendance had nearly doubled since the group's inception, with two new companies sending representatives to the next meeting.

*2017 Summit:* The Summit would be held at the Medaryville Christian Church annex on Tuesday, 14 March, at 6:30p.m., following a brief CDC business meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Revolving Loan Fund borrower Sandy Saltsman would cater, and Director Origer had been working on securing a speaker on the topic of agriculture, industrial development, or their junction.

*2017 tourism marketing:* During the last Commissioners meeting, the subject had been tabled and there had been, it seemed, limited interest in discussing the matter on the parts of Commissioners Krohn, Jr., and Becker. Director Origer had invited the commissioners to the office for discussion, but none had yet visited. He added that neither of the newest commissioners had been to the CDC office, period, since Election Day.

Commissioner Krohn, Jr., had asked the director to solicit tourism-related businesses' support to defray the costs of the ads. Since then, Origer had made inquiries to local businesses. In the sole response he had received, the business owner appeared open to the idea, but also questioned Krohn's knowledge of the economic impact of tourism. The business owner agreed to provide data to the CDC in order to better track the efficacy of the marketing campaign. Origer also reported his frustration with the commissioners' addressing the topic at the previous night's meeting without his having been notified of this, particularly given sentiments expressed by Commissioner Krohn, Jr., about the director's absence from the conversation. Discussion ensued, with many members expressing their frustration over the matter and the commissioners' perceived attitudes regarding tourism marketing.

*2017 strategic visioning:* No discussion.

#### New Business

*2016-2017 achievements report:* Director Origer distributed the 2016-2017 achievements report and asked members to provide feedback.

*Summer internship:* Director Origer distributed the revised job description, which was well-received. Discussion ensued.

#### Other Pertinent Business

*Expression of thanks:* Director Origer and the present commission thanked Andrew Fritz, outgoing CDC board member, for nearly six years' of service and acknowledged other outgoing members Dr. Federer and former County Commissioner Larry Brady.

*2017 Summit:* Director Origer stated that because of the short length of the business meeting, he intended to table some items on the agenda. He also reminded those present that voting for reorganization would occur and to be thinking about officer selection.

#### Public Comment

*None.*

#### Adjournment

**Motion: Mr. Fritz; second: Dr. Federer; no discussion; approval: all. 7:01p.m.**

Krysten Hinkle, Project Coordinator/Administrative Secretary  
Beth Grund, Executive Secretary *pro tempore*