

***Pulaski County
Community Development Commission***

Tuesday, 1 August 2017

Meadow Springs
Francesville, Indiana

Meeting Minutes

Members present: President Gregg Malott, Vice-President Annie Scholz, Executive Secretary John Plowman (Winamac), Membership Officer Doug Roth (County Council), executive-board member Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey); Aaron Paulsen (Chamber), Darlene Mellon (Francesville), Suzanna Wilcoxon (Medaryville); Doug Hoffman, Samantha Williams, Dave Zeltwanger. Executive Director Nathan P. Origer, Project Coordinator Krysten Hinkle, summer intern Jessica Wagner.

Members absent: Laura Wheeler (Commissioners); Bill Champion, Ross Davis [business], Beth Grund [business]. Summer intern Hagin Hiatt [not required].

Call to Order

President Malott called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m.

Consent Agenda

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

Old Business

Hometown Collaboration Initiative: INDOT approval had been received for State Roads 119 and 143, allowing for finalization of maps. Brochures and signage would soon be printed. Director Origer had been in communication with the Prairie Trails Club in Starke County regarding connectivity between the Erie Trail, their share-the-road routes, and the Pulaski County Bike Routes Network. Additionally, the director had been working with the Tippecanoe River State Park Access Committee toward extending the trail from the Winamac Parkway to the state park.

RAM-Tech program: Fourteen of 32 students had received industry certifications in the first year of the program; 25 had earned Ivy Tech credits. Director Origer had not yet received an update on fall-semester scheduling. Positive remarks were made about the program.

2017 strategic visioning: The director had yet to compile inputs from committee members, but would soon be organizing a meeting to review the remarks and to develop a final work product.

Wage-and-benefit survey: Surveys would be going out in the next couple weeks to any and all Pulaski County businesses, with responses to be collected through at least the end of September. The director would still need to consult with two or three businesses to confirm which types of jobs fit into which wage tiers in particular sectors.

Adopt-a-River program: Cooperative agreements between CDC and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife had been received for the installation of both signage and trash receptacles at public-access points. Discussion regarding trash removal ensued. Director Origer requested authorization to sign and to have President Malott sign the cooperative agreements. Permission was granted.

Motion: Mr. Zeltwanger; second: Mr. Roth; no discussion; approval: all.

Leadership Pulaski County: Companies surveyed had expressed support for the program and willingness to provide stipends for employees to participate. Staff and committee would be returning attention to this effort in September, with classes expected to start in January. Director Origer explained, at Mr. Zeltwanger's request, that the program, using an Extension curriculum, is geared toward cultivating civic leaders.

PC-CARE: Director Origer had participated in a commissioners' executive session along with two council members and two gentlemen interested in a project that would be connected to west-side industrial development. Director Origer reports optimism from commissioners toward this project, and that he had been instructed to reach out to a local businessman with plans for rail-requiring expansion to see how that project may tie into the discussed endeavor.

Tax-abatement process: The director had taken no further action on this, but no abatement requests have been made recently, either.

New Business

Agricultural outreach: Ms. Wagner reported on the farmers' breakfast, a first step toward improved connection with the agriculture community. Discussion ensued.

Other Pertinent Business

Pulaski County Farmers' Market: Mr. Zeltwanger enquired about this year's markets. The new Francesville market had been doing well, and the Winamac market, which recently moved to the courthouse lawn, had seen growth from 2016.

Chamber of Commerce: Mr. Paulsen expressed gratitude for support as the Chamber has undergone some transitions; a new office, inside Pulaski County Human Services' building, would soon be opening.

Media coverage: Mrs. Mellon commended the Pulaski County *Journal's* expanded coverage of countywide activity of late.

Personnel: Director Origer had begun, with President Malott's consent, working one day per week at second, short-term job and four extended days in the CDC office.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wagner, summer intern, Administrative Secretary *pro tempore*
John Plowman, Executive Secretary