

***Pulaski County
Community Development Commission***

Tuesday, 1 September 2020
Medaryville Christian Church annex
Medaryville, Indiana

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 2 June 2020
Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex
Winamac, Indiana

Members present: President Doug Roth, *Vice-President Beth Grund, Secretary Sheila Jimenez (Winamac), Membership Officer Kelsie Zellers, board member Brandon DeLorenzo; County Commissioner Ken Becker, Suzanna Wilcoxon (Medaryville); Tony Holliday, Brian Ledley.* Executive Director Nathan P. Origer. *Aaron Paulsen (Chamber) arrived at 6:02.*

Members absent: County Councilor Jay Sullivan, Doug Denton (Monterey) [civic]; Christy Coon [business], Blake Kasten.

Guests present: *Larry Brady, Laura Lodewyck, Scott Straw, and unidentified and uncounted other livestream viewers.*

(Roman text indicates in-person attendance; *italics indicate telephone (members)/online (guests) attendance.*)

Call to Order

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

Consent Agenda

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

Old Business

Revolving Loan Fund matters: The Board of Commissioners had accepted the CDC's recommendation to amend the RLF's program guidelines requiring borrower participation in the BizGro program hosted biannually by the Fulton Economic Development Corporation and Project Matters, LLC. The director reported that Trust Properties, LLC/Damen Voranoff had sold about five acres of excess property at the IBC Thermoplastics site, allowing the firm to get caught up on repayment. Mr. Voranoff and a friend had been working on lining up buyers for his products.

Leadership Pulaski County: The director and Purdue Extension Pulaski County's Samantha Williams had been meeting with persons interested in serving as Extension's part-time community-developer program manager, the position responsible for overseeing the leadership program.

The Community Foundation of Pulaski County, a partner in the program, would soon be kicking off a nonprofit-leadership training course, one of many facets of its leadership program.

Strategic visioning/Pulaski Co. budget concerns/path forward: The director had been continuing in his efforts to work with the County Council and BakerTilly toward restructuring the County's tax rates; BakerTilly would be presenting to the Board of Commissioners and Council at a joint session the following week.

2020 tourism-marketing efforts: The Chicagoland television station that had apparently ceased communication had finally reached out, and advertising with them would be commencing on television and online shortly. While not as strong as May 2019, tourism-website traffic for May 2020 had still been the fifth-best monthly total since monitoring had begun in April 2016.

2020 tourism-marketing efforts — Adopt-a-River: All public-access sites involved in the program had been adopted; Zehner's would continue to maintain the access point in Monterey. The director would be meeting with organizers of the 2019 river clean-up to discuss 2020 efforts.

Membership development: Francesville seat: Mrs. Zellers had reached out to a potential candidate for this seat, but had not yet received a response.

2021 budget: The director reported that he had resubmitted the budget with an adjustment to proposed 2021 wages based on a request from the County Council.

Pulaski County Incident Management Team/CoViD-19 response: With cases in Pulaski County having remained fairly low, the Team had reduced its meeting schedule to once weekly. The director would be submitting an application to the Office of Community and Rural Affairs for a small-business–relief grant program after the first grant round had run out of funding prior to his submission of the application. The State had introduced another program for relief funding as well.

Other Pertinent Business

2020 Economic Development Summit: President Roth asked about whether the Summit could still be organized and what kind of timeline would be involved; he and the director agreed that a decision would have to be made with finality at the August meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Paulsen; second: Mrs. Wilcoxon; no discussion; approval: all 6:11p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nathan P. Origer, Executive Director/Recording Secretary
Sheila Jimenez, Secretary