

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
OF WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 2, 2015**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barrett, Clark, Cohen, Elzemeyer, Jackson, Green, Guiley, Meredith, Quigg Warner

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Upchurch, Witte

STAFF PRESENT: Shaffer, Doty, Geres

GUESTS PRESENT: Burns, Dave – Richmond Citizen
Burns, Denny – Wayne County Commissioner
Pappin, Diana – Richmond Mayoral Candidate
Plasterer, Jeff – Wayne County Council
Sheeley, Rachael – Palladium-Item
Sowers, George – Attorney for EDC
Whalen, Marci Asher – Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Elzemeyer called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County, Indiana to order at 4:03 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2015, in the EDC board room.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Elzemeyer stated the minutes from the February 2nd board meeting were on pages 2 - 5 of the board packet. *Motion by Meredith, second by Barrett to approve the February 2, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jackson reported the EDC was under budget \$8,452.93 for the month of February and \$30,740.26 YTD. He reported on the few items over budget for the month including telephone parts, reference books, travel, dues, and advertising. He reported on adding two line items to the budget, 099 – Rental Income and 3354 – Rent/Other Expense. These were to record the lease payments from Wolverine Worldwide and the reimbursement to the City of Richmond. He explained we'd be backing out the rent every month when reporting the amounts under/over budget. *Motion by Green, second by Cohen to accept the February 2015 financials as presented. Motion carried.*

EDC STAFF REPORT

Geres – Geres reported on preparing for the new employee to join the office, preparing for the annual meeting, preparing broken and obsolete items for the Wayne County auction, and researching project management software.

Doty – Doty reported on designing and writing the annual report for the annual meeting, continuing to work with IronGate on website revisions and development of an infographic video, working with Mike Bennett on BrightSide stories, and volunteering to serve on the United Way Needs Assessment Taskforce.

Shaffer – Shaffer reported Raymond Walker of The Walker Companies would be the guest speaker for the annual meeting. He will talk about the site selection process and his experience working in Richmond on the Wolverine Worldwide project. She reported one new attraction project initiated in February – an existing company in the region looking for warehouse space. Project Sound, sister company of an existing company, would decide by the end of the week of their relocation. She reported several BRE projects were in the works, but no new activity was initiated last month. She reported on Sorema Plastics Recycling Systems of Italy, would acquire Perpetual Recycling Solutions. One of three principals of Perpetual Recycling Solutions, Carter Smith, would stay on as CFO. Shaffer has met with new ownership and they have no intentions of moving the company and are pleased with the workforce. She reported receiving 57 resumes for the new position, weeding it down to 16 for phone interviews, and further narrowing it down to 6 for face to face interviews with the hiring committee. The committee will then narrow it down further to hold second interviews. Shaffer hopes to extend an offer by the end of March. Lastly she reported on working with the Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce's Issues and Advocacy Committee on the rising electric rates and unpredictable bills. IMPA is paying half her way to attend a public power conference where she'll learn about the benefits of public power, how to utilize it, and economic development tools.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance** – Jackson reported the committee consisted of Elzemeyer, Guiley, Witte, Cohen, Sowers, and EDC staff. He reported the committee reviews the full GL and financials every month and usually meets for 15 minutes each month. He reported on reviewing the GL this month, discussing LED upgrades to the billboards, and Geres reported on filing 1099s, entity annual report, and the business entity report.
- B. Executive** – Elzemeyer reported the committee met on February 19th, discussed the Wernle EDIT application, reviewed the Maxwell Milling compliance report – which was accepted and closed, reviewed the GIS Interlocal invoice to come from the consolidated EDIT fund, heard updates from Shaffer on the new position search and project updates, and discussed the United Way Assessment Task Force – which Doty volunteered to participate in.
- C. Industrial Park** – Warner reported meeting on February 19th for 45 minutes. The committee further discussed the Industrial Park expansion and met with Cambridge City, Indiana representatives to talk about utilities at the Gateway Industrial Park.
- D. Marketing and Communications** – Green reported meeting on February 18th, where 3 members were present and 3 were not. Renee updated the committee on BrightSide – a MOU with Mike Bennett would be extended for 6 more months, but the stories would decrease to 3 per month. The committee suggested that Renee issue press releases to further market the stories by other media outlets. Doty also gave an update on the plastics campaign and mini-marketing retreat.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. EDIT Application #15-172

Shaffer reported on EDIT application #15-172 from Wernle Youth and Family Services for \$19,000 out of the consolidated EDIT fund. The grant is for assistance with their expansion. An increase in \$1.4M from the State of Indiana has allowed them to staff an additional 19.5 positions with a total payroll of \$1,108,398.00. Their request meets 3 of the 4 EDIT guidelines including number of jobs created, payroll, and training. Marci Asher Whalen was present to speak further on Wernle, the

expansion, and to field any questions from the board. *Motion by Quigg, second by Green to approve EDIT application #15-172 for \$19,000 out of the consolidated EDIT fund. Motion carried.*

B. BrightSide MOU

Doty reported on extending the BrightSide MOU with Mike Bennett. The extension is for another 6 months with the change in stories from 4/month to 3/month. The focus of the stories has been broadened to allow for quality of life stories. Doty urged board members to share ideas for future stories with her and to share the BrightSide stories when they receive them. *Motion by Green, second by Quigg to approve the MOU extension with Mike Bennett for BrightSide stories. Motion carried.*

ADJOURNMENT

Elzemeyer adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday, April 6, 2015
at Forest Hills Country Club, Richmond, Indiana at 4:00 pm**