

# ST. CLAIR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

**May 21, 2015**

#### Members Present:

Jerry Dinges      Robert Trentman  
Bob Allen        Ken Sharkey

#### Members Excused:

Rick Vernier      Frank Heiligenstein  
Marty Crawford

#### Staff Present:

Terry Beach, Director

#### Others Present:

Fred Bach, County Board Member  
Charles Lee, Public Building Commission member  
Tim Cantwell, Airport Director  
Randy Pierce, reporter

#### Call to Order:

Committee Chairman Sharkey called the Committee to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### Public Comment Regarding the Agenda:

Mr. Sharkey asked if anyone present had a question or comment regarding the agenda. There were none.

#### Approval of the March 19, 2015 Committee minutes (there was no Committee meeting in April):

Mr. Sharkey called for action on the March 19, 2015 Committee minutes. Mr. Dinges made the motion to approve the March 19, 2015 minutes which was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion passed unanimously.

#### New Business (Director's Report, information only):

Mr. Sharkey asked the Director to give his report. Mr. Beach gave an update regarding the business loan portfolio and discussed current leads/prospects, including a new prospect from a company looking at one or two sites in Dupu to build a new manufacturing business. The business employs 25 at their current location in the County but has no room to grow at the current facility. The new expansion would increase employment to 120 jobs total. Mr. Beach also mentioned a lead/prospect from upstate New York State desiring to lease or sub-lease 24,000 – 30,000 s.f. of warehouse space in the County to serve a manufacturing client from St. Louis.

Mr. Beach again updated the Committee on the status of the County's NGA proposal. And he also discussed the Scott AFB Task Force efforts regarding growing missions at Scott (he represents County Board Chairman Kern as Co-Chair). He also gave a brief update regarding the Department's social media presence and numbers (Facebook and Twitter).

He also discussed the meetings he and staff attended (or coordinated) in the prior 30 days: Senior Congressional staff briefing at MidAmerica Airport and Scott AFB; followed by a second identical briefing for Gov. Rauner, Congressman Shimkus, Congressman Davis, and Congressman Bost, DCEO Director Schultz and others; Scott Task Force conference calls; re-convened O'Fallon TIF Board meeting; he gave opening remarks at the annual Springboard to Success-A Women's Forum on behalf of County Board Chairman Kern; Boeing's quarterly update briefing at their St. Louis headquarters with Chairman Kern; County Board Trustee Committee; 1<sup>st</sup> annual Armed Forces Ball sponsored Chairman Kern and coordinated by the County's new office of Military Affairs. And, staff played a role in the planning for the April 27<sup>th</sup> County Board meeting held at, and on the grounds of, the historic Cahokia Courthouse in celebration of the County's 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary (Illinois First County).

Mr. Beach also discussed the 1 ½ day Economic Resilience Forum held May 20-21<sup>st</sup> at the SIUE East St. Louis Campus which was sponsored and coordinated by Chairman Kern, Director of Administration Debra Moore, and the Chicago Office & the Midwest Office of HUD. He stated that 17 Federal and some state agencies were present including Federal Regional Administrators (EDA, HUD, USDOT, MARAD, FRA, FTA, FHWA, USEPA, Corps of Engineers, and others) as well as many businesses such as the area railroads, agri-business, and bankers.

New Business (Airport Director's Report, *information only*)

Mr. Cantwell added to Mr. Beach's NGA comments. He discussed plans to seek a food vendor concessionaire, mentioned possible FEMA activity at the airport and updated the Committee on other pending items.

Mr. Dinges made a motion to support the County's efforts to attract NGA which was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Beach stated he would prepare a formal Resolution for the June or later Committee meeting.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Additional comments or questions from the Committee or the Public

There were none.

With no other information to discuss Mr. Sharkey asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Allen made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Dinges. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.