

Grants Committee Meeting

August 10, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present:

Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Oliver Hamilton, Sr.
Ken Sharkey
John West

Members Excused:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman
Roy Mosley, Jr.

Staff Present:

Terry W. Beach, Executive Director
Jennifer Little, Administrative Assistant

In Chairman Kassly's absence, Vice Chairman Vernier called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the IGD Administrative Conference Room.

Attendees rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chairman Vernier asked if there were comments from the public on the agenda. There were no public comments.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sharkey, and a second by Mr. West, the minutes from the July 25, 2016 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand, and a second by Mr. Sharkey, the letter from the Grants Committee Chairman to the County Board Chairman transmitting the payroll and expense claims for the month of July, 2016 was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. West, and a second by Mrs. Chartrand, the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of July, 2016 were approved unanimously to be placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Services Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Development Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Workforce Development Group report being placed on file.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sharkey and a second by Mr. West, the Community Services, Community Development and Workforce Development Group reports were approved unanimously to be placed on file.

Resolutions

Old Business

New Business

A. Director's Report

- Terry Beach explained Community Development Block Grant and HOME funding is prohibited from exceeding a threshold of 1.5 times their annual allocation. Large cities are able to easily control that unlike urban counties that deal with multiple cities and large towns who may stockpile their grant awards in order to complete larger infrastructure projects. IGD has permitted that; however, it caused us to briefly exceed the 1.5 threshold. IGD has since transferred remaining funds and awarded additional grants to cities that had awards the previous year. He stated those additional funds allowed cities and towns to complete projects faster. As a result, the number is now at 1.13 which is the lowest in IGD history. Mr. Sharkey asked if some communities were having difficulty spending funds. Mr. Beach responded yes, but expressed it was an issue nationwide not limited to St. Clair County. We are now currently way below the desired threshold.
- Mr. Beach informed members the LIHEAP program is preparing to start. He distributed the LIHEAP program description and guidelines to members and stated information will be published in both the Belleville News Democrat and the East St. Louis Monitor. Appointments for the elderly over 60 and disabled will be taken starting September 1st, households with children under six starting October 3rd, and all other qualified households November 1st. LIHEAP will be offered until May 31st or funding is exhausted. Mr. Beach also informed members the PIPP Program, Percentage of Income Payment Plan, which is state funded will return this year. LIHEAP served approximately 6400 households last year. He hopes with PIPP we can serve an additional twenty percent this year. Mr. Beach stated IGD has nine temporary LIHEAP positions open; three of which will be filled with returning staff. Positions will pay \$12.00 per hour with no fringe benefits. Those hired will work approximately 600, possibly 900, hours. Applicants need at least one year of college as well as social service, non-profit experience. Interested applicants should fill out a County employment application and email Mr. Beach their resume.
- Mr. Beach stated we also have a full-time Career Specialist position open in our Clinton County office with our Workforce Development Group. Maddie Beckman accepted a position with Scott Air Force Base. The position is located in Carlyle, Illinois and will pay approximately \$21.00 per hour upon successful completion of a six month probation period plus fringe benefits. Mr. Beach stated applicants must be a Clinton County resident or willing to move there within six months of accepting the position. Although IGD has the final say as to whom is hired, successful applicants are reviewed with the local county board chairman.
- IGD's annual audit is complete. There were no findings or management recommendations again this year. The audit will be placed on the County website.

- The MidAmerica Workforce Investment Board is wrapping up its changes to the WIOA program. States are working to transition from the Workforce Investment Act, which ended July of last year, to WIOA the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The program will work more closely with our job training partners.
- The Community Action Agency Board oversees our community service programs. The Board hasn't had a Hispanic member since Gene Verdu retired; they are pleased Mercedes Collada who works for the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation is now serving on the Board. Mr. Beach explained board members are comprised of one-third from the public sector, one-third from the business sector, and one-third from clients or an agency that serves clients such as Lessie Bates and Catholic Urban Program. He informed members the CAA Board meets bi-monthly with a meeting this Friday [Aug 12th].
- The Housing Resource Center, which is IGD's homeless assistance program, assists those who are homeless or evicted. One of their grants is through the Illinois Housing and Development Authority, IHDA. IHDA monitors completed an audit yesterday [Aug 9th]. There were no findings.
- Vice Chairman Vernier asked if we would receive our funds from Illinois. Mr. Beach stated we have signed the contracts, the governor has consented, and the funds are in the budget.

Upon a motion by Mr. West and a second by Mr. Sharkey, the Director's report was approved unanimously to be placed on file.

Other Comments

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Vernier entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. Sharkey, Vice Chairman Vernier adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.