

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

St. Clair County Building
10 Public Square, Room A-300
Belleville, IL 62220 - 1623
Phone: 618-277-6600, Ext. 2670
Fax: 618-825-2745
www.co.st-clair.il.us



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2016

Members Present:

Jerry Dinges	Ken Sharkey
Robert Trentman	Robert Allen
Marty Crawford	

Members Excused:

Frank Heiligenstein	Rick Vernier
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Staff Present:

Terry Beach, Director
Dorothy Carlisle, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Fred Boch, County Board Member
Charles Lee, PBC Member
Tim Cantwell, Airport Director

Call to Order:

Committee Chairman Sharkey called the Committee to order at 6:00 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 January 21, 2016 Committee Minutes (action required):

Mr. Sharkey called for action on the January 21, 2016 Committee minutes. Mr. Dinges made the motion to approve the 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 his monthly update regarding several new leads/prospects. One lead in particular that he discussed was a qualified prospect involving a brewery operations facility.

He discussed the NGA site efforts in detail. There were several questions and comments.

He also briefed the Committee on a proposed 60 unit senior citizen housing development in Swansea on a site next to the MetroLink station. Mr. Beach stated the Grants Department will conditionally commit \$100,000 in Federal HOME funds towards the project. He mentioned the importance of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and that the project has the support of the Village of Swansea. He further stated that SWIDA was involved with

some of the financing along with the Illinois Housing Development Authority. He stated the developer was the Bywater Development Group from St. Louis.

Mr. Beach told the Committee that he also had several meetings on site at the Kaskaskia Marina in New Athens (and many telephone conversations) with the new owners in response to the massive flood damage that occurred there. He mentioned that he had been providing information regarding their financing options (SBA 7A Program and similar loan guarantees from the USDA Rural Development B&I Program).

He also updated the Committee on the status of the River Bridge District (bid letting is close) and related matters regarding the Front Street project.

He gave an update on the status of the Grants Department HUD Sec. 108 Loan Pool application that will be a significant economic development tool that was supported by County Board Chairman Kern.

He also discussed the meetings he and staff attended (or coordinated) since the last Committee meeting: various NGA site meetings and discussions; annual City of Madison TIF Board meeting; Southwestern Illinois Trade & Investment Council meeting; Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc. meeting at Dynegy Baldwin power plant followed by a tour; meeting with Ed Weilbacher from the Kaskaskia Regional Port District regarding mutual projects; and Mid-America Workforce Investment Board meeting.

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

Tim Cantwell updated those present on activities at MidAmerica Airport including: the new Punta Gorda flights, Allegiant news in general, and the \$1 million Federal entitlement grant due to the higher passenger count.

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. Dinges made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Crawford. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.