

Grants Committee Meeting

March 9, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman
Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Roy Mosley, Jr.
Ken Sharkey
John West

Members Excused:

Oliver Hamilton, Sr.

Staff Present:

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

Chairman Kassly called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the IGD Administrative Conference Room.

Attendees rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Kassly asked if there were comments from the public on the agenda. There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Mr. West and a second by Mr. Sharkey the minutes from the February 10, 2016 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Mosley and a second by Mr. Sharkey the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of February, 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. West and a second by Mrs. Chartrand, 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 informed members the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity were here to provide training for a new state pilot program to the Weatherization employees along with staff from IGD's sister agencies such as BCMW (Bond Clinton Marion Washington Counties). BCMW assists IGD in completing weatherization work. The pilot program will double the amount of funds spent on the weatherization of a home. Mr. Beach believes it will become a full-time program July 1st when the state's new budget is set to begin.
- Community Development annual public hearings are under way; the first hearing was held at IGD last week. Additional hearings have been held at the Hett Performing Arts Center at McKendree University in Lebanon and the Mary Brown Center in East St. Louis; an additional hearing will be held in Marissa Township. IGD's funding for Community Development will remain about the same as last year being approximately \$3.1 million; 1.5 million is allocated for East St. Louis only projects; \$1 million for St. Clair County outside of ESL and Belleville; and \$600,000.00 for Belleville.
- Many changes are taking place as part of the conversion of WIA [Workforce Investment Act] to WIOA [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act]. WIOA places more emphasis on working with employers/businesses. Community colleges throughout the country that receive WIOA funds are now required to not only train students but to track their success rates after graduation.
- LIHEAP is continuing to spend funding and is very busy.
- The relocation of staff from 27 N. Illinois Street to the 19 Public Square location is working very well.
- Mr. Mosley asked how Weatherization's new pilot program would allow IGD to double funding for a home. Mr. Beach explained the procedures may be the same with different accounting; it may mean IGD can do more for residents but complete less homes. Previously a home may not have been eligible for weatherization assistance as the program could not fund the repairs needed; the new pilot program would now allow those homes to be eligible by doubling the amount of weatherization work IGD can complete.
- Vice Chairman Vernier asked if IGD has other counties completing weatherization work for St. Clair County due to limited funding. Mr. Beach responded yes. He explained IGD has two field auditors who complete the initial work-up and the final inspection. Mr. Beach added IGD is working on Housing Authority units in Marissa. Despite being slowed down a bit by work on senior citizen housing units, St. Clair County Weatherization is ranked 2nd out of approximately 40 agencies in the state. Chairman Kassly asked if we expected any additional funding. Mr. Beach responded approximately \$16,000.00.

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Vernier and a second by Mr. Mosley, the Director's report was approved unanimously to be placed on file.

Other Comments

Mr. Mosley asked Mr. Beach if there was anything the Committee could do to show support for NGA [National Geospatial Agency] relocating to St. Clair County. Mr. Beach discussed the various NGA site efforts. Chairman Kern recently discussed the NGA move with Fox 2/Channel 11 anchor Shirley Washington; the interview will be featured on the "Pulse of St. Louis" Saturday evening [March 12] at 7:00pm. Pictures will be posted on IGD's Facebook page. Mr. Beach stated the preferred location decision will be announced April 1st; it was previously scheduled to be announced March 25th.

St. Clair County has responded to the draft EIS [Environment Impact Statement] with a report from Hanson Engineering; the County retorted understatements, overstatements, and omissions from the draft report. Mr. Beach added the corrections will come out April 1st when the final EIS report is released. He explained in the final report, the Corps will give their preferred site; NGA staff will also give their preferred site which may be the same or different. There will then be an additional thirty day comment period.

Mr. Beach discussed a recent meeting with NGA Director Robert Cardillo. Chairman Kern and Mr. Beach attended a private briefing with Mr. Cardillo along with Senator Durbin, Senator Kirk, Governor Rauner and his top staff, Congressman Bost, Congressman Shimkus, and former Congressman Costello. Mr. Beach praised the bipartisan effort in relocating NGA to St. Clair County. He discussed the \$113 million the State is contributing. Mr. Beach reiterated the importance of the April 1st decision however explained the NGA Director has thirty additional days before he releases his decision.

Chairman Kassly asked which Corps office was handling the report. Mr. Beach responded the Kansas City Corps; he stated the Louisville Corps will be responsible for construction.

Mr. West asked if Mr. Cardillo has the final decision over the Corps. Mr. Beach stated yes; he further explained Mr. Cardillo, who reports to the Director of National Intelligence, has stated he will personally make the decision which is best for the nation.

Mrs. Chartrand asked if there is a flood plain problem with the North St. Louis location. Mr. Beach stated he did not believe so; however, the City has not yet begun Phase I let alone a Phase II which St. Clair County has already completed. St. Clair County completed Phase I when the airport was built and began Phase II with the Reider Road project. Mr. Beach addressed the .8 acre archeological sensitive site on the St. Clair County property; the County identified it and has already started remediation.

Adjournment

Chairman Kassly entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mr. Mosley and a second by Mrs. Chartrand, Chairman Kassly adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.