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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2018

Members Present:
Robert Trentman   Ken Sharkey
Robert Allen   Rick Vernier
Frank Heiligenstein

Members Excused:
Marty Crawford   Jerry Dinges

Staff Present:
Terry Beach, Director

Others Present:
Fred Boch, County Board Member
Charles Lee, PBC Commissioner
Holly Zipfel, citizen

Call to Order:
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 May 17, 2018 Committee Minutes *(action required):*
Mr. Sharkey called for action on the May 17, 2018 Committee minutes. Mr. Allen made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Trentman. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business (Director's Report, *action required*):
Mr. Sharkey asked the Director to give his report. Mr. Beach updated the Committee on department activities and meetings since the May 17, 2018 Committee meeting and other on-going projects. He distributed his monthly report (2 months: May 18–July 19, 2018) to the Committee members and others present. In the report he mentioned the following: He was working with three (3) significant area businesses. *Details are confidential at this time*. Two are "retention" projects since they have out-of-county options, and the third one is an established commercial/industrial developer.

The proposed downtown East St. Louis full service grocery store team is possibly re-applying for HUD Sec. 108 business loan assistance from us. Mr. Beach provided details.

He also mentioned there are three new leads/prospects searching for sites. He distributed attachments that reflect the detailed amount of data and information that is requested of us by the company and/or their site selection consultants. He distributed information for Project Forte as well as Project Magic Beans, a fastgrowing and increasingly significant player in the alternative food and food technology sectors is seeking a location for its end-to-end (processing, packaging, storage) manufacturing facility, with a nameplate capacity of 300M lbs. per year of ready to ship food product. The consultant is considering Illinois because of its geographic location and logistics assets. Seeking 20-40 acres to build or an existing 350,000 s.f. facility. Project Firefly, is considering establishing a new centralized operations and processing center for its Midwest recycling business. The company is considering an option to identify an existing facility or purchase land for a build-to-suit building. Existing buildings should be close to or easily expandable to 250,000 square feet. Project Firefly is expected to select the finalist location in Q4 2018 and start construction, depending on availability of properties in Q1 2019 with 30 full-time jobs and the potential to add 20-30 more jobs over the next 2-5 years, paying an average annual compensation of $55,000. Capital investment related to real estate, and personal property, i.e. machines and peripherals (M&E, F&F, IT) is estimated at $8-10 million.

River Bridge District: Phase 1 is basically complete. Phase 2 roundabout is complete. Phase 2 continues with nearby street being reconstructed (such as B Street). Mr. Beach distributed photos.

Meetings in the past 60 days that Mr. Beach attended: IDOT Airport of the Year luncheon awards ceremony (May 24th) in Springfield with County Board Chairman Kern, PBC Chairman Sauget, and Airport Director Cantwell; the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) National Summit in Washington, DC (June 18th-June 20th) where County Board Chairman Kern received the prestigious Community Leadership Award. Mr. Beach had the honor of introducing Mark to the audience of 900. Also attending were John Hughes, Tim Cantwell, and Rick Stubblefield. We had significant side meetings with senior Air Force leaders. We also went to the Hill and met with Senator Durbin where we discussed items of interest to the County and Scott AFB; planning session (second such meeting) at the Kaskaskia Regional Port District office in Red Bud (June 26th) with existing river oriented businesses and port board members; monthly Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc. (LKSI) meeting (June 27th), this month it was in Chester followed by a tour of the Gilster-Mary Lee plant also in Chester; represented the County at the National Association of Counties (NACO) annual meeting (July 13th-16th) in Nashville, TN. We are also active members of NACCED (National Association for Community and Economic Development) which is a NACO affiliate, and also participated in the NACCED meetings that took place in conjunction with the larger NACO conference; and, today (July 19th) conducted a meeting we arranged with the mayors and/or their staff from O'Fallon, Lebanon, Shiloh, and Mascoutah to discuss potential changes to the incentives offered by our St. Clair County MidAmerica Enterprise Zone (likely changes will require Committee and County Board action at the August or September meeting). Mr. Beach distributed photos he took from some of these meetings.

Social media: Facebook page has 2,328 "likes" which is +19 since last May and Twitter has 732 "followers" which is +28 since May. Mr. Beach continues to post 4-5 times weekly regarding our activities and those of our partners. Mr. Allen made a motion to accept Mr. Beach's report and place it on file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vernier. The motion passed. (A copy of the report is a part of these minutes).

New Business (Airport Director's Report, *information only*):
Airport Director Cantwell did not attend but his information was distributed.

Old Business
There was no Old Business to discuss.

Additional comments or questions from the Committee or the Public
There were no other comments.

And 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. Trentman. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.