

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2018

Members Present:

Jerry Dinges	Robert Trentman
Ken Sharkey	Robert Allen

Members Excused:

Marty Crawford	
Frank Heiligenstein	Rick Vernier

Staff Present:

Terry Beach, Director
Dorothy Carlisle, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Fred Boch, County Board Member
Charles Lee, PBC Commissioner

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 February 15, 2018 Committee Minutes *(action required)*:

Mr. Sharkey called for action on the February 15, 2018 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, *action required*):

Mr. Sharkey asked the Director to give his report. Mr. Beach updated the Committee on department activities and meetings since the February 15, 2018 Committee meeting and other on-going projects. He distributed his monthly report (February 16-March 15) to the Committee members and others present. In the report, he provided an update on Project Roof, discussed the SIU-E Small Business Development Center's annual entrepreneurial business plan contest (the Department is a \$1,000 sponsor courtesy of funding from the Intergovernmental Grants Department), and the additional territory the Department will add to the St. Clair County MidAmerica Enterprise Zone to assist a new grocery store in the City of Lebanon. Mr. Beach is conducting a public hearing for this Enterprise Zone expansion on Friday, March 23rd at 10:00 am in the County Board meeting room and will be meeting with the Mayors and staff from Lebanon, Shiloh, O'Fallon, and Mascoutah regarding the Zone expansion.

Meetings in the past thirty days: attended IDOT's new Freight Grant Program informational meeting for local governments on February 23 in Collinsville (attended with County Board Chairman Mark Kern, County Engineer Norm Etling, and Randy Georgen also with the County Highway Department); meeting in our office with Trudy Bodenbach on February 27. Trudy is the new Community Development Director for Madison County; spoke to the February 28th lunch monthly meeting of the Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc. (LKSI). The meeting was held in New Athens. We are members and are asked to speak to the group at least annually; attended the March 1st State of the City/Village lunch presentation highlighting activities and future projects in both the City of Fairview Heights and the Village of Swansea. The event is sponsored by the Metro East Regional Chamber of Commerce. Attended with County Board Chairman Kern; on March 2nd we and County Board Chairman Kern gave former St. Louis Mayor Vincent Schoemehl, Jr. a familiarization tour of the River Bridge District along and near the East St. Louis riverfront and environs followed by lunch at the Casino Queen; on March 5th attended a daylong annual Kaskaskia Watershed Association (KWA) conference in Carlyle; on March 7th attended a Lebanon TIF Joint Review Board meeting at City Hall as the County's representative; March 8th attended the quarterly civic leaders/Congressional District Directors briefing at Boeing HQ in St. Louis along with John Hughes and Tim Cantwell; on March 12th Paul Ellis, the new Economic Development Director for the City of Fairview Heights, stopped by our office; and March 14th attended the annual New Athens TIF Joint Review Board as the County's representative.

And Mr. Beach mentioned the upcoming Issues & Eggs breakfast (Wednesday, April 4) at Belle-Court in Belleville sponsored by the Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce. We suggested to the Chamber that Sheila Sweeney (St. Louis Economic Partnership) and her senior staff be the speakers regarding our regional Amazon HQ2 efforts; what we learned; and our regional econdev path forward.

Social media update: Facebook page had 2,308 Likes (+18) and Twitter had 674 Followers (+17).

Mr. Dinges made a motion to accept the Mr. Beach's report and place it on file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion passed. (A copy of his report is a part of these minutes).

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

Airport Director Cantwell did not to attend but he provided a handout showing the running annual report. No discussion.

Old Business

There was no Old Business to discuss.

Additional comments or questions from the Committee or the Public

There were no other comments.

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 6:14 p.m.