

To Grants Committee Meeting

February 19, 2025

MINUTES

Members Present:

Susan Gruberman, Asst. Chairman
Scott Greenwald
Ken Sharkey
Matt Smallheer

Members Excused:

Stephen Reeb, Chairman
Courtney Moore
Richie Meile

Staff Present:

Rick Stubblefield, Executive Director
Becky Rose, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

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Assistant Chairman Sue Gruberman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the St. Clair County Annex Conference Room, 2nd Floor.

Attendees rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Assistant Chairman Gruberman took roll call.

Assistant Chairman Gruberman asked if there were comments from the public on the agenda. There were none.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sharkey and a second by Mr. Greenwald, the minutes from the January 8, 2025 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sharkey, and a second by Mr. Smallheer, the letter from the Grants Committee Chairman to the County Board Chairman transmitting the payroll and expense claims for the month of January, 2025 was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Smallheer, and a second by Mr. Sharkey, the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in January, 2025 were approved unanimously and placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Services Group and the reports were placed on file.

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

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

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

Old Business

None.

New Business

A. Downstate Illinois Tourism Letter

Rick Stubblefield introduced a letter recognizing Downstate Illinois Tourism as one of the Certified Tourism Bureaus within the State of Illinois. Mr. Stubblefield stated each year the Grants Committee submits a letter to the Chairman for approval to indicate the St. Clair County Board will continue to recognize Downstate Illinois Tourism as one of the certified tourism bureaus within the State of Illinois. He noted the bureau does a great job promoting the county and the region and encouraged members to visit their Facebook page. Mr. Sharkey offered a motion to approve and Mr. Greenwald seconded the motion.

Assistant Chairman Gruberman called for a vote to approve; the motion was approved unanimously.

B. Director's Report

Mr. Stubblefield stated that Weatherization continues to have issues with the Weather Works program although it is improving. The fear is that they will not be able to complete enough houses to spend their money. Weather has 5 jobs completed with 10 jobs out. They also have added another contractor so hopefully that will help move things along faster.

Mr. Stubblefield stated that LIHEAP continues to be busy. To date, 89% of all applications and over 3000 families have received benefits. Processing time for an application is around 30 days.

Mr. Stubblefield stated that Community Development Block Grant Action Plan and 5 Year Plans are underway. Public hearings were held last week for those two plans. A consultant for the Disaster Recovery Grant has been selected. They are in the process of reviewing that award and have begun the application process. Six applications were received for the 2022 Disaster Recovery grant. Only five of the applications are eligible and are under review.

Mr. Stubblefield stated that Workforce Development is caught up on their waitlist. They are getting ready for a series of training courses, conferences, and summits.

Mr. Stubblefield stated that Community Services Block Grant has started their new program year. 90% of last year's allocation was spent. That was high enough that the remaining will roll over.

Mr. Stubblefield stated that the Housing Resource Center is the collaborative applicant for all of HUD funded programs in the County. IGD also chairs the St. Clair County Continuum of Care which has an oversight responsibility for all the homeless programs funded with HUD dollars. All programs were reallocated this coming year. Funding for program year 2025 is \$4.5 million which is up from \$3.8 million last year.

Mr. Sharkey asked if there were any concerns about the recent Executive Orders. Mr. Stubblefield expressed his concern but remains positive.

Mr. Sharkey made a motion to approve the Director's report and Mr. Greenwald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Comments

None.

Adjournment

Assistant Chairman Sue Gruberman entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mr. Smallheer, and a second by Mr. Greenwald, motion passed, and Assistant Chairman Gruberman adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.