

Minutes approve 07-18-12



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

McKenzie Building - Jury Commission Room

Wednesday, June 20, 2012 – 4:06 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman David Zimmerman, James Carius, Russ Crawford, Jim Donahue, Mike Harris, Linc Hobson, Tim Neuhauser, Greg Sinn, Terry Von Boeckman

Committee Members Absent: Dean Grimm, Terry Hillegonds, Carroll Imig

Others attending: County Administrator, Mike Freiling

MOTION

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY HARRIS to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2012 meeting.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION

E-12-65

MOTION BY SINN, SECOND BY CARIUS to recommend to County Board to approve a business development loan.

Sally Hanley, Director of Business Development with EDC presented information to the Committee. She had provided Committee members with a write up briefing and application information from Excel. Hanley stated that Excel has brought major expansion to the area including road improvements. Their capital investment is underway with the building infrastructure. They are coming to the Committee today with an equipment need. The request is for \$150,000.00 from the revolving loan fund with a 4 year amortization at a 3% fixed interest rate. This will allow them to purchase additional equipment needed and will add 10 jobs in addition to the jobs added with CDAP approval.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED.

Excel COO, Rod Bollinger, thanked the County on behalf of Excel for the support they have received. He stated it was a testament to how well government can work with private industry to make a difference.

Harris asked how the interest rate was determined. Hanley stated that historically it has been 4% but the last one was 3%. Hanley stated it was competitive with Peoria and Woodford.

Chairman Zimmerman clarified that the Revolving Loan Fund was a dedicated line item. Grashoff stated that was line item 247.

Hanley advised the Committee that she had sent all Board members an invitation to the 4-B Elevator Ribbon Cutting on 06-23-12.

Chairman Zimmerman briefly discussed video gaming. He stated the ban attempt did not have enough votes. Now Washington is establishing an ordinance. The fees are covered in the State Statute. It would be \$25 per machine per year plus licensing. Zimmerman advised the Committee that there may be a Resolution at the next month meeting.

Neuhauser stated that the State of Illinois adopted the law that allows unless the municipalities ban it. It can generate a revenue stream for the County.

Chairman Zimmerman provided the Committee with an update on the Central Illinois Economic Development Council. He stated that Frank Knott and Vital Economy are doing a 14 month study for solutions. During the interim the County will still be relying on CIEDC even though they are going through restructuring. There will be more discussion on EDC at next months meeting and we need to be prepared as opportunities present themselves that we have someone representing and advocating for Tazewell County.

Crawford stated Knott's expectation is that Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford will all take the package of five recommendations and adopt as Resolutions. Crawford will bring those to the July Executive Committee. The point is as they move from a Regional model to individual county models it will be important to know there is buy-in before discussing a county model.

Crawford clarified if Tri-County River Valley Development Authority will be on the June County Board agenda.

Carius asked if we were looking into one person being the Tazewell County person. Chairman Zimmerman stated that is one option that is being looked at. He also clarified that we want to coordinate and not duplicate services.

County Administrator Freilinger stated that the concept was presented at last month's meeting. He also stated he is not at the point of developing an RFP at this time. He also stated he understood that there are still many questions regarding this concept.

Chairman Zimmerman stated the Finance Committee meeting will address this issue. Carius expressed he was concerned about the cost as well as the concept. Zimmerman stated that if the Board agrees to an individual for the County's economic development role during the interim, it would be a contractual hire.

Neuhauser stated that this is an attempt to prepare for the current economic model which may or may not change. The results of the study won't be available for 14 – 18 months. During this interim we could have missed economic opportunities for the county such as in the rural areas that are excellent locations for agricultural related business.

It was clarified that at this time, there is no signed contract with EDC. The Board approved a contract through the end of November 2012, but it has not yet been returned as executed.

Chairman Zimmerman stated that there will be information out to the Board to allow them to make an informed choice. He stated there has been a lot of activity in the last 30 days. His concern is having Tazewell County represented.

County Administrator Freilinger provided the Committee with an update on the Strategic Plan. The Chairman selected the sites and the Community Development Administrator is working on scheduling meetings. It is anticipated that invitations to local officials as well as public notification will go out in July or August. After the focus groups are completed there will be a Board retreat.

He stated that one of the things asked of him was to review all of the ordinances. He also expanded looking into policies and procedures. Freilinger stated he would be looking at all, even those that were recently passed and will be making recommendations. He stated that the recently adopted Personnel policy has caused both Elected and Department Heads to discuss concern with items contained.

Freilinger also briefed the Committee on his attendance to the GFOA conference.

Donahue stated he appreciated all the community work that Freilinger has done recently.

Crawford clarified that the locations for the Focus Groups for the strategic plan were Pekin, Morton, East Peoria, Washington, Hopedale, Mackinaw and Delavan. Crawford stated that Mayor of East Peoria stated the Festival Building could be utilized for the meeting.

MOTION

E-12-62

MOTION BY CRAWFORD, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Travis Langenbach to the Deer Creek Fire Protection District.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION

E-12-63

MOTION BY CRAWFORD, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of John P. Webb to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION

E-12-62

MOTION BY CRAWFORD, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Don Vaughn to the Zoning Board of Appeals as First Alternate.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Zimmerman recessed the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

(transcribed by S. Beeney)