

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
OF WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA  
Annual Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 13, 2019**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bolser, Frame, Golden, Leisure, Parker, Salazar, Templin, Tuner, Warner, Zaleski

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Yaeger

**STAFF PRESENT:** Shaffer, Doty, Mitchell, Geres

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Allen, Michael  
Barrett, Johnnie  
Borchers, Steve  
Brackemyre, Bryan  
Burns, Denny  
Cheung, Oi Lin  
Cochran, Denny  
Cruz-Uribe, Kathryn  
Cunningham, Michael  
Davis, Gerald  
DeLaPaz, Ed  
Ford, Fred  
Green, Nancy  
Hancock, Caitlin  
Hartley, Jenny  
Heiny, Pat  
Holbrook, Ron  
Hollenberg, Derek  
Huffine, Jeff  
Hutcheson, Dan

Jackson, Jeff  
Johnson, Curtis  
Johnson, Sherrilyn  
Kenworthy, Mindy  
Kieffer, Rinda  
King, Jennifer  
Lingle, Paul  
Mahon, Diane  
Matney, Melissa  
McLane, Brenda  
Mintz, Howard  
Morrison, Troy  
Murray, Becky  
O'Brien, Steve  
Oler, Ron  
Paust, Ken  
Paust, Linda  
Pegg, Paris  
Plasterer, Jeff  
Poinsett, Kimberly

Quinn, Phil  
Raatz, Jeff  
Ray, Valerie  
Reinecke, Sarah  
Row, Mike  
Russell, Alan  
Russell, Josh  
Salo, Pam  
Saunders, Gary  
Schutt, Mary Anne  
Slick, Kevin  
Stapleton, Dan  
Tamborski, Peter  
Thurlow, Kim  
Troutwine, Jason  
Truitt, Jason  
Vance, Melissa  
Wandersee, Dan  
Weddle, Colleen  
Witte, Paul

**WELCOME**

Board Chair Robert Warner called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County, Indiana to order at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2019, at Lingle Hall in Reid Health located in Richmond, Indiana. He thanked everyone for attending and thanked IMPA for sponsoring the luncheon.

As 2019 Board Chair, Warner and staff developed five goals for the EDC to accomplish during 2019. He presented on those goals and provided updates as to where they stand:

- The first goal is to finalize the Home in Wayne website. The purpose of the Home in Wayne website is to promote the benefits of living and working in Richmond and the Wayne County

area. This website was fully functional in January of this year so we have already reached our first goal.

- Our second goal is to work with the Western Wayne Regional Sewer District to develop a solution to the sewage treatment concerns in the Western Wayne sewage district. Regular meetings are being held and we believe a solution will be forthcoming within the next few months.
- Our third goal is to investigate and develop the remaining land within the existing Phase I of the Midwest Industrial Park to try to best utilize all of the land owned in that area. The Industrial Park Committee of the EDC is currently meeting with consultants to maximize the available tracts of land and explore the best uses possible.
- Our fourth goal is to find additional large tracts of land that may be available so that we can have multiple sizes of sites shovel ready for future business prospects. We are exploring available land opportunities and hope to find acceptable land areas by the end of the year.
- We have set a goal to review and update the EDC By-Laws and the EDIT Grant Application guidelines. To date, we have completed an update of the EDIT Grant guidelines and we plan to start reviewing the By-Laws next month.

Warner then introduced the staff and board of directors. He then invited 2018 EDC Board Chair Tim Frame to review 2018.

### **2018 IN REVIEW**

Frame reported in many ways the EDC serves as the “sales force” for Wayne County. Whether the EDC is responding to requests for proposals, seeking out land for future development opportunities, providing grants to local businesses for new projects, or promoting education and training opportunities, the EDC maintains a critical role for our current and future success.

As with any successful organization or mission, the key ingredient is people. He reported we are fortunate to have Valerie Shaffer serving as President of the EDC in Wayne County. Valerie’s tenure as President has been one of accomplishment, with 2018 being no exception. A talented leader tends to attract other talented people, and the EDC certainly has an exceptional team that work extremely well together in support of the EDC’s mission of improving the business environment and employment opportunities.

Tim reported, whether we are looking at the next year, the next five years, or even the next 25 years, the importance of an active and engaged Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County remains critical to the success of our communities. When our EDC is successful, we all win together

### **RECOGNITION OF PAST CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS**

Warner returned to the podium with Frame to present Johnnie Barrett, Jeff Jackson, Josh Russell, and Paul Witte with tokens of the EDC’s appreciation for their service on the board as an outgoing board members. Then Warner presented Frame with a token of the EDC’s appreciation for serving as board chair last year.

Johnnie Barrett was appointed to the board of directors by the Centerville Town Council in 2016 and served a three-year term. Johnnie was an active member of the Marketing and Communication Committee during his time on the board.

Jeff Jackson was appointed to the board of directors by the Mayor of the City of Richmond in 2015. During his time on the board he served on the Executive/Finance Committee as treasurer in 2015, vice chair in 2016, chair in 2017 and past chair in 2018. In 2019 the board reluctantly accepted Jeff's resignation due to business interests. This was Jeff's second time to serve on the board of directors. In total, Jeff spent eleven years serving the community and aiding in county-wide economic development efforts.

Josh Russell was appointed to the board of directors by the Wayne County Council in 2016 and served a three-year term. During his time on the EDC Board Josh lent his expertise to the Industrial Park Committee.

Paul Witte was appointed to the board of directors in 2013 by the Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce. Paul was reappointed to a second term in 2016. While on the board Paul was a member of the Industrial Park Committee from 2013 to 2016. In 2014, Paul was elected secretary and became a member of the Executive/Finance Committee. In 2015, Paul served as the vice chair, and was elected to chair of the board in 2016. He remained on the Executive/Finance Committee in 2017 as the past chair.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AWARD**

Shaffer returned to the podium to present the Economic Development Partnership Award to Commissioner Kenneth Paust.

Each year the EDC recognizes an individual or organization who has gone above and beyond to strengthen Wayne County's economic development efforts. This year the EDC recognizes Wayne County Commissioner, Ken Paust.

Ken was chosen as this year's recipient of the Partnership Award for his unique ability to bring people together to accomplish a common goal. Once Ken gets his hands around a project that he knows will make a difference, its full speed ahead and he never takes no for an answer, and instead sees no as an opportunity to continue discussions until a compromise can be found. He is a convener, a collaborator and a visionary.

Over the last few years Ken has been instrumental in several impactful projects across the county.

- He created a taskforce focused on purchasing the former Elder Beerman property, which we did and are now working together to find a suitable developer.
- He helped establish the partnerships needed to build a road to support the growth of the Midwest Industrial Park.
- He encouraged the partnership with his colleagues in county government, the City of Richmond and Reid Health who collectively came together to raise the funding to tear down the former hospital.
- And currently Ken is a member of a working group focused on finding a solution for additional wastewater capacity in Western Wayne County

What Ken will tell you is that he doesn't do any of this on his own and it takes a team. What others will tell you, is that if you want to get something done, bring Ken into the project and he will make sure a solution is found and the project comes to fruition.

I sincerely appreciate all of the support that Ken provides to the EDC and the time and talents he lends to economic development projects in Wayne County. Ken please come forward to accept the EDC's Partnership Award.

### **COMPANY RECOGNITIONS**

Sarah Mitchell joined Valerie Shaffer at the podium to recognize and present an appreciation award to the following companies and their representatives and thanked them for their investment in Wayne County in 2018:

#### **JM Hutton & Co., Inc.**

- Investment – \$1M
- New Jobs – 7
- Incentives – \$10,160 EDIT Grant

#### **Taconic Biosciences**

- Investment – \$1.2M
- New Jobs – 6
- Incentives – \$13,500 EDIT Grant

#### **SugarCreek**

- Investment – \$33M
- New Jobs – 150

#### **Grace Sales & Engineering, LLC**

- Investment – \$1.1M
- New Jobs – 14
- Incentives – \$41,000 EDIT Grant

#### **Omen USA**

- Investment – \$15M
- New Jobs – 200
- Incentives – \$237,000 EDIT Grant

Collectively, these 5 new investment projects represented:

- 377 new job commitments;
- A total new annual payroll over \$13.5M;
- An average wage of \$17.16 per hour;
- And total capital investment exceeded \$51.4 million

### **GUEST SPEAKER – SARAH REINECKE, DEVELOPMENT COUNSELLORS INTERNATIONAL**

Shaffer presented guest speaker Sarah Reinecke of Development Counsellors International who spoke on the topic of the importance of economic development and tourism groups collaborating together, highlighting points that relate to tips for converting visitors to residents, as well as marketing lifestyle

and livability, and speak to why online presence is an important tool for talking to talent as well as share best practices for communicating messages to talent online.

**CLOSING**

Warner thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday, June 10, 2019  
at EDC of Wayne County, Richmond, Indiana at 4:00 pm**