

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
OF WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 11, 2016**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Clark, Elzemeyer, Frame, Green, Jackson, Parker, Russell, Upchurch, Warner, Witte

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Barrett, Cohen

STAFF PRESENT: Shaffer, Doty, Geres

STAFF ABSENT: Henry

GUESTS PRESENT: Oler, Ron – Richmond Common Council
Plasterer, Jeff – Wayne County Council
Shuey, Mickey – Palladium-Item
Sowers, George – Attorney for EDC

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Witte called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County, Indiana to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 2016, in the EDC board room.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Witte stated the minutes from the March 7th, May 2nd, and May 19th board meetings were on pages 2-10 of the board packet. *Motion by Green, second by Upchurch to approve the March 7th, May 2nd, and May 19th minutes as presented. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Warner reported the treasurer's report included financials for March, April, May and June. He verbally reported on the most recent month, June. For the month of June, the EDC was under budget \$1,899.01 for the month and under budget \$28,642.05 for the year. He reported on line items over budget for the month and year and stated the account balances could be found on page 29. *Motion by Jackson, second by Green to approve the financials for March, April, May and June 2016. Motion carried.*

EDC STAFF REPORT

Geres – Geres reported on completing another cost of living survey – the last one for the year, finishing up the internship with Youxi and updating the sites and buildings database. She also reported on updating the industrial park brochures with new images of the Sugar Creek expansion for the Indiana Gateway Industrial Park and updating the Midwest Industrial Park brochure with the addition of Blue Buffalo as a tenant and reducing the acreage available. She reported on Jennifer North completing the audit for last year's financials and that she would report to the finance committee on July 28th. Lastly, she reported on working with the Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce to create an invitation for community leaders to meet with IEDC President Jim Schellinger and working with Patriot Engineering to update the soil boring reports for Phase II of the Midwest Industrial Park.

Henry – Shaffer spoke for Henry who was unable to attend due to a planned vacation. She reported on being at 97% of their goals towards becoming designated a Certified Work Ready Community, only

needing 21 more transitioning testers. She reported on the partnership between the Wayne County Jail and WorkOne to test inmates, which will not only help our goals, but should also help recidivism rates and allowing the inmates to gain meaningful employment upon their release.

Doty – Doty reported her staff report which included work from March – June was on page 38 and 39 of the board report. She reported on a few highlights including the release of the new version of the website which includes a one minute infographic video. She stated Phil Quinn is using this video in social media and it was also sent out to the different Mailchimp lists we keep consisting of site selectors, local businesses, and the local community. She reported Joe and Phil produced a video to promote the Certified Work Ready Community process and that holds the title for second most viewed post, right under Valerie’s Top 50 Economic Developer designation. She reported on sending out a number of e-blasts, and assisting in arranging the Blue Buffalo news conference at WCTV. Lastly she reported on working with Louise Ronald, a new freelance writer for Brightside, on her first article about the Shakespeare Festival.

Shaffer – Shaffer reported on being flooded with an overwhelming amount of calls from contractors looking to bid on the Blue Buffalo construction. Their engineering firm has been very busy finalizing the design plans which will be presented to the Industrial Park Committee members, who act as the architectural review committee, this month. They have the date of September 22nd tentatively scheduled for a groundbreaking ceremony and we are awaiting final confirmation. She was contacted by the local manager of New Holland farm implements, who purchased parts of lot 1 and 2 in Phase I of the Midwest Industrial Park, and he stated they have started the application process for local and state building permits. They plan to be operational by February 2017. She reported Project Acreage continues to be actively interested in the southeast lot in Phase II of the Midwest Industrial Park. She reported Project North is dead and shared that IMPCO Automotive, who was based out of Randolph County and was looking to expand in Richmond, has merged with another company and closed the Randolph County location. She is working with the manager to help find opportunities for the displaced workers. She reported Project Sailfish, who was looking at land south of Vandor along the Norfolk Southern rail line, has turned their focus from Norfolk-Southern served sites to CSX served sites and are doing their due diligence among rail providers. She reported on two new projects, Sugar Daddy and Silver. Project Sugar Daddy is interested in a Hagerstown site and have planned for a site visit in the coming months. Project Silver is an Ohio based company looking to relocate to Wayne County and has scheduled a site visit for Wednesday. She reported on her planned trip to Japan for the full week of November 11th, that Mindy Kenworth of ECIRP has taken the charge in planning the trip with the help of JASI, she has reached out to local companies for assistance in getting into their corporate headquarters in Japan, and that currently she has seven meetings to set up. Five of the meetings will be with the headquarters of local companies and two are potential recruitment meetings. She reported on having no extra time to visit Richmond’s sister city Unnan, but would connect with Unnan City officials before the visit. She reported the talent recruitment site is taking longer than expected. A meeting is planned for the next week with Randolph County to hopefully finalize the MOU and make plans to get the process started. Lastly, she reported Geres had paid Porter Advertising for the lighting upgrades to LED on the two billboards we own and the utilities should start to decrease, giving us a payback on investment in 3-5 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance** – Warner reported on meeting several times since the last board meeting and discussing the general ledger. He reported on discussing a new wireless technology system for the conference room.
- B. Executive** – Witte reported much of what had been discussed in executive meetings had already been reported on during staff reports. He reported the Vandor compliance was discussed and the grant

would be closed out. He also reported on receiving a six month extension on the Toyota lease and also reported the office lease was up at the end of the year and staff would be completing their due diligence in looking at other available office space.

- C. Industrial Park** – Warner reported meeting in March and May and discussing the topics of Project Dove, Round Barn Road and Garr Jackson Road upgrades, Western Wayne wastewater, and industrial park expansion.
- D. Marketing and Communication Committee** – Green reported that Doty had mentioned many of things discussed in the marketing committee in her staff report. She added that Phil Quinn was present to give an update and that the numbers look promising and social media is doing well.

ADJOURNMENT

Witte adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday, August 1, 2016
at EDC of Wayne County, Richmond, Indiana at 4:00 pm**