



**MINUTES  
 WHITESIDE CARROLL COUNTY  
 ENTERPRISE ZONE  
 MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION  
 October 6, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Duffy called to order the regular quarterly meeting of the Whiteside Carroll County Enterprise Zone Management Organization at 9:01a.m. on October 6, 2015 in the County Board Room of the Whiteside County Law Enforcement Center Building, 400 N. Cherry Street, Morrison, Illinois.

EZMO members in attendance were: Glen Kuhlemier, Bill Wescott, Heather Sotelo, Jim Duffy, Paul Engwall, Tony McCombie, Scott Shumard, Kim Ewoldsen, Ed Cannon, Larry Russell, Vicky Trager, Les Mitchell, Bill Robinson and Randy Balk. Also in attendance were Betty Steinert, Zone Administrator and County Administrator Joel Horn.

Absent members were Everett Pannier, Robbin Blackert, Tim Crady, Dale Eizenga, Kevin Reibel, Carl Bates, Bud Thompson, Skip Lee, and Steven Swanson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vice-chair Duffy called for public comment. There was none.

**APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Glen Kuhlemier made a motion to approve the reappointment of expired terms of Bud Thompson-Prophetstown, Heather Sotelo-Sterling and, Randy Balk-Rock Falls for the term of October 2015-2018 (3 years), second by Paul Engwall. Motion carried, unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice-chair Duffy called for a motion to approve the distributed minutes dated June 17 and July 15, 2015. Bill Wescott made the motion to approve minutes, second by Larry Russell. Motion carried, unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATORS PROJECT AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Yearly Report to Date	# of Projects	Investment	Jobs Created	Fees Collected
12/1/14-09/30/15	13	\$9,800,855	31	\$22,684.29

Ms. Steinert reported that the Enterprise Zone fund balance as of September 30, 2015 was \$289,543.61 in Farmers National Bank which includes interest of which we now collect. JoCarroll expendable funds remaining are \$19,634.50.

A motion was made by Bill Robinson to approve the Administrator's reports for projects; fees collected; fund balances and investments, second by Bill Wescott. Motion carried, unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **New Zone Application:**

Betty reminded everyone that since a legal determination by Illinois Department of Commerce has been made that the state statute states: *For Enterprise Zones that are scheduled to expire on or after January 1, 2017, an application process shall begin 2 years prior to the year in which the Zone expires.* This is not what the previous council for the state was declaring and teaching across the state. Betty reported that at the Illinois Enterprise Zone Board she attended in Springfield, twelve zone applications submitted December 2014 for approval 2015 were thrown out because they had applied too early.

### **Service Contract:**

An amended Service Contract with Greater Sterling Development Corporation was distributed, discussion was held. All agreed that the amendments fell within what work is needed to be completed for the new zone application, due December 31, 2016. Tony McCombie made a motion to accept the service contract as presented, seconded by Les Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Enterprise Zone Administrator/Economic Development Director Search:**

Joel Horn, Whiteside County Administrator discussed with the board the continued search for a new Enterprise Zone Administrator/Economic Development Director. As of now none of those whom have been interviewed seemed to be a good fit. It was decided by the Enterprise Zone Executive Committee to recommend to the full board that since Betty was available to work within hours allowed under IMRF for now, that there was time to continue to look. Ms. Steinert stated that she would be gone over the winter but would be available to do what needs to be done via phone, internet etc. and if something big came up she would return to complete that task. It was decided to re-post the job opening again in late November early December.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Betty reported that the Illinois Department of Commerce Public Private Partnership is definitely still being considered and she will keep the board informed as she learns more on how this will proceed. Also HB4300 has been proposed by Jack Franks of Woodstock to do away with Enterprise Zones, he has tried this before and I have been told there is no great threat of this going through but we should still watch it.

Discussion was held the January EZMO meeting and it was decided by consensus that there would not be January 2016 meeting as a new Administrator/Director has not been hired yet and Betty will be gone. Betty will set a date for the April 2016 meeting and will notify all members.

### **Request for Addition(s) of Territory:**

There was none at this time.

## **OTHER**

Mayor Bill Wescott spoke on how concerned he was that the state budget has not been approved and no one is receiving their tax payments. This causes a strain on our communities and counties finances. He spoke about starting to send letters and make phone call to our legislators to settle this soon.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business Mr. Duffy called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Whiteside County Enterprise Zone Management Organization. Ed Cannon made a motion, second by Larry Russell. The motion carried, meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.