



**MINUTES
 WHITESIDE CARROLL COUNTY
 ENTERPRISE ZONE
 MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION**

July 12, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pannier called to order the regular meeting of the Whiteside Carroll County Enterprise Zone Management Organization at 9:04 a.m. on July 12, 2016 in the County Board Room of the Whiteside County Law Enforcement Center Building, 400 N. Cherry Street, Morrison, Illinois.

EZMO members in attendance were: Bill Wescott, Glen Kuhlemier, Robbin Blackert, Dale Eizenga, Everett Pannier, Ed Cannon, Paul Engwall, Jim Duffy, Heather Sotelo, Kim Ewoldsen, Les Mitchell, and Vicky Trager. Also in attendance were Enterprise Zone Administrator, Gary Camarano, Sandy Prescott, Administrative Assistant and guests Betty Steinert, GSDC and Galen Wirth, Village President; Milledgeville.

Absent members were: Randy Balk, Carl Bates, Tim Crady, Tony McCombie, Kevin Reibel, Bill Robinson, Larry Russell, Scott Shumard, Steven Swanson, and Bud Thompson.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Pannier called for public comment. There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Pannier called for a motion to approve the distributed minutes dated April 12, 2016. Motion to approve minutes was made by Jim Duffy, second by Bill Wescott. Motion carried, unanimously.

ADMINISTRATORS FISCAL YEAR 2015 PROJECT AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Quarterly Projects Report	# of Projects	Investment	Jobs Created	Fees Collected
04/01/16-6/30/16	3	\$239,418	9	\$600.27

Mr. Camarano reported that the Enterprise Zone fund balance as of June 30, 2016 was \$265,539.77; at The Farmer's National Bank. With funds belonging to the Jo Carroll Enterprise Zone, in the amount of \$19,634.50, leaves a balance of expendable funds in the amount of \$239,905.27.

A motion was made by Glen Kuhlemier to approve the Administrator's reports for projects; fees collected; fund balances and investments, second by Ed Cannon. Motion carried, unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE ON NEW ZONE APPLICATION

Betty Steinert, GSDC Special Projects, reported that the new application is moving along as expected. She has and will be attending State Board meetings. She had packets with samples of criteria, a sample Ordinance and a sample Intergovernmental Agreement to review the application process. Ms. Steinert shared what she needs from each of the communities and counties. The state point system was discussed. They can be difficult to meet but Ms. Steinert pointed out, we do not have to qualify for every one of them. Name of the Zone was discussed. The board will need to decide if they want to change the Zone name or keep it the same. Letters of support to the Mayors, from employers, need to be to Ms. Steinert by July 31, 2016. She also is collecting infrastructure 5 year plans that are required for the application. A list of vacant buildings is being developed over a 5 county area. Ms. Steinert requested that a monthly meeting be set up, beginning in August, September and October. Administrator Camarano will send out for available attendance dates.

OTHER - None

NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GUIDE (B.A.G.)

Administrator Camarano shared copies of a Business Assistance Guide that his development office has put together and placed on the Whiteside County Web site. It is a living document that will see many changes as more information becomes continually, available. This B.A.G. is filled with data and resources for businesses and entrepreneurs. At this time it is set up with Whiteside County criteria. It can be edited to contain Carroll County information that will cover the areas that encompass the Jo Carroll Enterprise Zone. This is one development tool that has been created by Mr. Camarano. All felt it was a useful tool and would like to have one developed for the Carroll County area. Information will need to be obtained to complete the B.A.G. for Carroll County to include a logo that will be agreed upon.

ZOOM PROSPECTOR

Zoom Prospector is a mapping tool that site selectors use to locate property, down to a zip code, that will meet the criteria they want to find. This will be a regional economic development approach and will require investment from everyone to make it happen.

LEAD GENERATION

Administrator Camarano has many leads on companies and their contacts that are looking to expand or build somewhere in the U.S. These leads come from the ICSC RECON 2016 Lead Generation convention that took place in Las Vegas. He intends to get this information in the hands of development people in our area to help them to generate calls and reach out with available land or buildings that will meet the company's criteria.

FAMILIARIZATION TOUR

Administrator Camarano is in process of setting up a familiarization tour of the area. He has been working with Mara Roche, LRA, to bring people from out of the country to see what our area has to offer them to build here. They intend to leave the Chicago area and see and hear what is in place in the area. They will be stopping to view vacant structures that may meet their criteria in Rock Falls, Sterling, Morrison, Fulton, Savanna and the Savanna Depot before returning to the Chicago area.

REGIONAL FREIGHT STUDY

As of this meeting, funding has been allocated and no longer is the issue that was developing at the state level. The study has been funded as determined and will be underway. No further discussion will be needed at this time.

OTHER

Administrator Camarano shared that Jim Schultz, Acting Director of Illinois Business and Economic Development Corporation, IBEDC, will be coming to our area on August 25th. He will be meeting with area Economic development and businesses on the East side and West side of Whiteside and Carroll Counties. He will also be meeting with elected officials.

ADJOURMENT

There being no other business Chairman Pannier called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Whiteside County Enterprise Zone Management Organization. Robbin Blackert made a motion, second by Bill Wescott. The motion carried, unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.