



MINUTES
WHITESIDE CARROLL
ENTERPRISE ZONE
MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

OCTOBER 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

EZMO Chair, Everett Pannier, called to order the regular meeting of the Whiteside Carroll County Enterprise Zone Management Organization at 1:31 p.m. on October 8, 2019 in the County Board Room of the Whiteside County Law Enforcement Center Building, 400 N. Cherry Street, Morrison, Illinois.

EZMO members in attendance were Robbin Blackert, Randy Boonstra, Jim Duffy, Paul Engwall, Kim Ewoldsen, Glen Kuhlemier, Skip Lee, Everett Pannier, Doug Sherf, Scott Shumard, Bud Thompson, Mick Welding, and William Wescott. Also in attendance were Gary Camarano, Enterprise Zone Administrator and Sandy Prescott, Enterprise Zone Assistant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

EZMO Chair, Everett Pannier, called for public comment. There was none.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Appointments and reappointments were as follows:

City of Sterling- Reappointment on Scott Shumard, term to expire October 2022.

County of Whiteside- Reappointment of Glen Kuhlemier, term to expire October 2022.

Village of Lyndon- Reappointment of Paul Engwall, term to expire October 2022.

Village of Thomson- New appointment of Frank Tipton, term to expire October 2022

The chair called for a motion. Skip Lee made the motion to approve to approve the appointment/reappointments with a second from Bud Thompson. All approved, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

EZMO Chair, Everett Pannier, called for a motion to approve minutes dated July 9, 2019. A motion to approve minutes was made by Glen Kuhlemier, second by Paul Engwall. All approved, motion carried.

ADMINISTRATORS FY19 PROJECT AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Projects Recorded FY19 (7/1/19 to 9/30/19)

| FY19 Projects Report | # of Projects | Investment | Jobs Created | Fees Collected |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 7/1/2019-9/30/2019 | 4 | \$2,442,892.00 | 7 | \$7,947.90 |

There were 4 projects recorded in the 3rd quarter of FY19, with an investment of \$2,442,892.00 and 7 new jobs created or retained due to the project. These projects currently have 11 employees. Project fees were collected in the amount of \$7,947.90.

BALANCE OF FUNDS TO DATE

Administrator Camarano reported that the Enterprise Zone fund balance as of September 30, 2019 was \$117,805.74; at The Farmer's National Bank. Interest for the quarter was in the amount of \$152.44. Project fees were collected for the quarter in the amount of \$7,947.90 collected and disbursements in the amount of \$240.00. The JoCarroll Enterprise Zone was given their portion of the interest for July, August and September in the total amount of \$18.54. With no projects reported for the JoCarroll Enterprise Zone, their new balance, comes to \$13,861.68. This leaves the Whiteside Carroll Enterprise Zone with \$104,124.68 in total expendable funds.

The EZMO Chair called for a motion to approve the FY19-3rd quarter project and financial reports. The motion was made by Bud Thompson; second by Bill Wescott. There was no further discussion. All approved, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Each board packet contained a 2019/2020 Enterprise Zone brochure and a copy of the new insert that was mailed out with the brochure to each commercial and industrial property located in the zone. The new insert has been met with positive attention from property owners with its bold line "Why Am I Receiving This?" The insert was created in hopes that property owners would take a closer look at the brochure. It appears to be working. Many who called the office had no idea they were in the zone. Some had already completed a project and some were just beginning. We continue to reinforce that first contact is in the municipalities zoning offices. Packets were given to take back to zoning offices. Included in the packets were a laminated step-by-step "what to do" when either a commercial or industrial property comes in for a permit, 20 EZone brochures and a list of commercial and industrial properties in the municipalities zone.

Administrator Camarano discussed the FRED Unemployment Rate for Whiteside County and had a handout for everyone.

OTHER

There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

JOB FAIR

On Friday, September 27th the Economic Development department co-sponsored a job fair at Morrison Institute of Technology. The event was from 9:00 a.m. to noon. 15 companies came to seek potential employees. While the companies felt the fair went well and would come to future events, not as many job seekers turned out as we had hoped for. It was felt the torrential downpour on that morning may have caused many to not venture out. We are exploring a new "Worker Initiative Program" where a website with an ad campaign would take visitors to a jobs page that would list available opportunities. A flyer with all the information was in each packet.

BUSINESS FORUM

An “International Doing Business with...” Forum and Luncheon will be hosted by the Economic Development Department on October 10th with 8 representatives from Argentina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Ecuador Greece, Lithuania, Philippines and Poland along with Select Chicago. Planned stops are the Rock Falls Riverfront, Astec Mobile Screens, Inc., and the Whiteside Area Career Center. A lunch break will take place at the Candlelight Inn in Rock Falls.

OTHER

NEO NETWORK

Neo Network Development helps cities, counties and transportation agencies safely and efficiently expand 5G wireless technology on infrastructure in the public right of way. Information on the Neo Network Development was given in all board packets. The Economic Development Department will be contacting the Neo Network team to come and share what has and can be done for communities to develop the 5G connectivity. Once a date and time is confirmed invitations will be sent out to elected officials and city administrators.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Community updates were shared by the communities in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business Chairman Pannier called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Whiteside Carroll Enterprise Zone Management Organization. Randy Boonstra made the motion to adjourn, second by Jim Duffy. The motion carried, unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.