

ECI REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING - 3rd Quarter / 2017
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, at 3:00 P.M. - DELAWARE COUNTY
Innovation Connector - 1208 W White River Blvd - Muncie

Present: President Bill Hess, Marta Moody, James King, Scott Alexander (Proxy for Ron Quackenbush,) Tonya Hiatt, Randall Dunnuck, **Olivia Deday** (Proxy for Chris Cook,) Mike Burton, Shane Middlesworth, Don Wimmer, Steve Kelley, Mayor Randy Geesaman, Jorge Ortiz, Dale Buwalda, Susie Ripley. Staff: Bill Walters, Brad Bookout. Guest: Curtis Johnson

1. Welcome / Introductions

President Hess called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. Guest Speaker

Curtis Johnson with the USDA was the guest speaker.

3. Approval of May 16th, 2017 minutes

President Hess briefly reviewed the minutes from the February 14th minutes. King motioned, Moody seconded, Alexander abstained, motion carried.

4. Treasurers Report through July, 2017

Mike Burton explained the expenses and totals to the board.

Geesaman motioned, King Seconded, Middlesworth abstained. Motion carried.

5. Board President Report

President Hess explains the lack of communication for the Road Shows. He wants these to be twice a year. President Hess updates the board on Blackford. Blackford County has dropped out - President Hess believes they will come back in a couple months. Jay County has dropped out, and the board is working to get them back in. Henry County dropped out and Hess explains ways on which they need to improve to get Henry County back. Hess believes that getting high school students involved and getting wifi in the areas will bring more people in.

The Board President report was then motioned by Marta Moody and seconded by Tonya Hiatt. The Board President Report was then approved.

6. Executive Director's Report

Bill Walters reported the following:

1. May 17th - Had meeting with Steve Reed on Brownfield sites and RFP's
2. May 18th - Meet with Enviroforensics on Brownfield sites.
3. May 19th - Attended the Community Crossing Grant meeting at INDOT in Greenfield.

4. May 22nd – Meet with Daleville Town officials to help prepare RFP’s for property received in Tax Certificates from the commissioners.
 - a. Attended the Town of Swayzee board meeting to discuss income survey and Community Crossing Grant possibility.
5. May 24th - Attended meeting in Gaston for the Kickoff of the USDA grant for wastewater upgrades. Public meeting
6. May 25th - Attended IARC meeting in Indianapolis.
7. June 1st - Attended MCCOG meeting in Anderson.
 - a. Had lunch with Anita from Midwestern Engineering. (Possible project help within the RPO)
8. June 2nd - Worked on CCG with the Town of Swayzee.
9. June 3rd - Attended the grand opening of the new park in Daleville.
10. June 6th - Attended meeting in Albany on workforce development.
 - a. Attended town board meeting in Selma to present contract to help with CCG. Approved.
11. June 7th - meet with Dan Avery of the NIRCC RPO to discuss possible INDOT work for our RPO. SERPS program.
12. June 8th - Attended IARC meeting.
13. June 13th - meet with VS Engineering and Gaston on establishing a TIF district at 28 & I-69.
14. June 14th - Attended Anderson Polytechnic opening.
15. June 15th - Started road inventory in Swayzee for CCG
 - a. Attended USDA meeting in Gaston for application.
16. June 16th - Continued work on Swayzee road inventory.
17. June 17th - Started the Town of Daleville’s CCG.
 - a. Attend the Yellow Tie Ball in Westfield.
18. June 19th - meet with H.T. Pham of INDOT on possible work with them for the RPO.
 - a. Worked with the Town of Swayzee on CCG.
19. June 20th - 22nd, Took ECIRPD group to Washington DC for meeting with both Legislators and Agencies.
20. June 24th - Submitted both Swayzee and Daleville’s MIP plan to LTAP.
21. June 26th - Attended Swayzee town board meeting to update process on CCG.
22. June 27th - Had meeting with attorney on Ohio St and all outstanding RFP’s.
 - a. Meet with Tracy Dishman on possible upgrade to our website.
23. June 28th - Worked on USDA grant for Gaston.
24. July 6th - Meet with Street manager in Daleville to identify road work for CCG.
25. July 10th - Meet with Tracy Dishman to start putting ideas together for new website.
26. July 13th - Attended IARC meeting in Indianapolis.
 - a. Had meetings with Deputy Mayors McGrath of Fishers and Steve Cooke of Noblesville along with Brenda Meyers of the Hamilton County tourism on possible joining of the RPO.
27. July 14th - Deadline on all CCG applications. Successfully applied for Daleville, Swayzee and Selma.

28. July 17th - Meet with Steve Reed again to continue conversation on Brownfield sites.
29. July 18th - Meet with Kelly Shrock of the Community Foundation to review the ne Daleville Park and how we can work together to further community development.
30. July 19th - Held meeting on Daleville RFP opening and took under advisement.
31. July 31st - Meet with local realtor on possible business development on Bethel Ave.
32. August 1st - Meet with Merchant McIntyre on possible grants and with INDOT for help in the state and to put a representative on the ECI board.
33. August 3rd - Attended MCCOG meeting in Anderson.
34. August 5th - Attended Gaston Park board meeting.
35. August 7th - Participated in phone conference for RPO Internal Controls with IARC.

Marta Moody motioned, Tanya Hiatt Seconded. Executive Report was then approved.

7. New Business

a. Website Design

Hopefully a full presentation will be given to the board in November. Bill Walters is working with Tracy Dishman to get a new look for the website with updated content.

b. Heartland I-69 Corridor Committee

Brad Bookout touches on the I-69 Corridor. Bookout says they hope to see the finishing of the increased travel lanes on I-69. Bookout wants the four lanes to become six lanes up to the Daleville exit. Visits with different commissioners have been set to get everyone on board with this project. Bookout says they will continue to lobby and look for funds. (EDA, Federal grants.)

c. Gaston Street Lights and Community Center

Tonya Hiatt worked with the USDA and secured \$75,000. Bookout is working with Tonya Hiatt on grants. The Community Center has the drawing finished; Brad Bookout will bring them in the next meeting.

d. DC Trip Recap

Three meetings with their group of lobbyists. Bookout thanks Delaware County Commissioners for giving funds to help with funding this project. Bookout says it was the best DC trip so far.

e. Lobbyist visit/INDOT Meeting

Came to Indianapolis 1st or 2nd of August. The Lobbyists came to the INDOT meeting with ECI RPD to look at what INDOT needs from RPD and to look at

the grants needed so time was not wasted. In November, they will have a representative who will start attending the quarterly meetings.

f. Lobbyist Visit Portland/Winchester

They were very thorough and knew exactly what was needed to be done. Task lists were made and a recap of the meeting was discussed a few days later. Just on the drive from Indianapolis to Muncie, the team noticed things that needed to be addressed. Another list of grants will be given to Bill Walters at a different date. Overall the meeting went well.

g. Denied US EPA Grant

Denied for the second year in a row. By putting names on the application of counties that have not been awarded yet, Bookout believes this will give them a better chance of getting the funds.

h. RFP's Pending - Daleville, Eaton, Ohio St, Gaston

Bookout touches on different locations within Eaton, on Ohio Street, and Gaston that need work.

i. Community Crossing Grants - Swayzee, Daleville, Selma

Swayzee, Selma, and Daleville are all in.

8. Old Business

a. EDA Meeting - Hamilton and Madison County

Preliminary meetings have been held with both Hamilton and Madison County. Talks will continue to form the I-69 steering committee.

b. CEDS Update

In process. Bookout will be compiling projects with the road shows and updating those. Bookout says that a lot of the communities tend to not reach out as much for their projects, and he will have to make some calls.

c. Blackford County Update

Strongly recommended that Blackford get back into the group. This request is coming from the "higher up."

d. Portland Non-Profit Update

Walters says this is a follow up from the meeting with the mayor. Different entities are looking to create different things. Bookout and Walters are looking to schedule meetings with these leaders.

9. Roundtable Discussion

10. Adjournment