



South Central Illinois Regional Planning & Development Commission

120 Delmar Avenue / Suite A - Salem, Illinois 62881-2000

Phone: (618) 548-4234 Fax: (618) 548-4236 www.scirpdc.com

Serving the Illinois Counties of Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper and Marion since 1972

MINUTES – MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2017

ELKS LODGE

SALEM, ILLINOIS

Commissioners Present

David Johnson	Clay County
Dale Murbarger	Clay County
Phil Wiley	Clay County
Mike Brown	Effingham County
David Campbell	Effingham County
Norbert Soltwedel	Effingham County
Larry Taylor	Effingham County
Sasha Althoff	Effingham County
Jeff Beckman	Fayette County
Angela Fehrenbacher	Jasper County
Jason Warfel	Jasper County
Pat Burtch	Jasper County
Tom Brown	Jasper County
Erwin Hahn	Marion County
Chet Burks	Marion County
David Armbrust	Marion County
Mark Gibson	Marion County
Janie Grimes	Marion County
Tom Ashby	Marion County

Guests Present: None

Staff Present: James Patrick, Executive Director
Jeanne Dunahee, Assistant

Chairman Soltwedel called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. He reported revisions to the Agenda as follows: VIII. Old Business – Altamont CDI Loan Closing June 1, 2017; Internet & Telephone System; IX. New Business – Trevor Bissey Resigns from SCIRPDC Board; Fayette County Bank Bought Out (SCIRPDC’s Deb’s Catering SBA Loan Involved).

ROLL CALL *(Taken by signature sheet – see the list of attendees above)*

Twenty-one voting Commissioners attended, constituting a legal quorum. Soltwedel asked if there was any further business. There being none, he moved on to the Recognition of Guests.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**“The Mission of the South Central Illinois Regional Planning & Development Commission is to
Enhance Economic Development and Quality of Life for its Regional Citizens”**

An Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

April 25, 2017 Monthly Meeting

Soltwedel asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the Minutes of April 25, 2017. There being none, a motion was made by Beckman to approve the Minutes as written, and a second was made by Gibson (*Approved*).

BILLS & COMMUNICATIONS

Upcoming Grant Deadlines and Submissions

Patrick referred to page five, reporting he wanted to review the Commission's most used grant programs. He noted the Mobility and Access Program is no longer funded. The Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are one of the most useful tools in the Commission's region. The Commission currently has two grants - the Farina Farms and Farmweld's expansion in Teutopolis. The CDBG provides funding for a variety of community-based projects. Communities with populations of 50,000 or less can apply for grants under the CDBG program which must include a 25% match requirement of non-CDBG funds, except for Housing Rehabilitation) and benefit at least 51% low-to-moderate income (LMI) persons. These grants have an open application and may be applied for at any time. The CDBG Public Infrastructure grant funds of up to \$450,000 may be available for use by local governments to improve public infrastructure and elimination conditions detrimental to public health, safety and welfare (water/sewer/storm sewer projects, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation demolition or installation of public infrastructure). Project areas must be primarily residential in character and fund may also be used to finance costs associated with the connection of residential structures to public facility improvements. The CDBG Emergency Public Infrastructure (Non-Competitive) what the Commission calls the Emergency Set Aside Grant, is currently being used in Altamont on (Division Street) for unforeseen incidents not caused by lack of maintenance. Therefore, if a water/storm sewer has not been properly maintained and falling apart, this would be non-eligible for application. The CDBG Housing Rehabilitation grant funds of up to \$450,000 may be available for local governments to upgrade their existing housing stock and to provide safe and sanitary living conditions for low-to-moderate income, single-family, owner occupied residents of their communities. Therefore, \$45,000 per home, approximately 6-7 homes can be brought up to code and make them safer for local residence that meet income requirements.

Reverse Funding Fair

Patrick noted this is the first time in Illinois that USDA has hosted and the Commission has promoted in the five county regions the Reverse Funding Fair. The fair gives municipalities and special taxing districts a chance to present a project to many funding agencies at one time. The Commission currently has 8 projects on a list. According to USDA the following agencies available should be: USDA, IDOT, DCEO, EDA, among others that have not been confirmed. The fair will take place on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Effingham Public Library from 9:30 to 3:30.

He referred to pages 7-8, noting that this is something sent to local officials, in the five county region, trying to keep them up to date on what the Commission provides. Then an email blast is sent as a follow-up/reminder. Soltwedel then asked for a motion to approve the Bills and Communications as presented. A motion was made by T. Brown and a second from Wiley (*Approved*).

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 16, 2017 – May 15, 2017 Commission Financial Report

Patrick referred to page 9-16, bringing attention to checks #31631, and #31647. Checks written from April 16th through May 15th totaled \$39,969.97. Patrick moved on to page 10, reporting the activity on the Business Now Account, Checking Account, Accounts Receivables, the EDA 301 (b) Account. He then moved on to page 11, reporting the EDA Title IX RLF Account and the Title IX

RLF Savings Account activities and the Title IX RLF Sequestered Account and the RBI/CDI Account. Patrick moved on to pages 12 through 15 reporting the Year-to-Date Financial Statement, Financial Projections April 2017 to December 2017, Revenue Update on CD's and on the Loan Portfolio Report. He reported that the City of Kinmundy loan payment was due April 10th and a payment and late fee was made on May 8th and their May 10th payment was made on May 8th bringing them up to date. Patrick moved on to page 16, reporting the breakdown on Sleep Stores, Inc. loan payments leaving a balance of \$40,229.02 plus late fees of \$139.50 on the books, as they filed personal and business bankruptcy. The information concerning the bankruptcy is found under IX. New Business. Soltwedel ask if there were any questions, there being none, a motion was made by Taylor to accept the Treasurers Report as presented and seconded by M. Brown (*Approved*).

STAFF REPORTS

April 16, 2017 – May 15, 2017

Patrick reported, in addition to the staff reports submitted he wanted to inform those present, information on the FY-2016 CDBG grant awards. The Commission was awarded one of three Public Infrastructure Grants (40 awarded across the state) and one of three Housing Rehabilitation Grants (19 awarded this year) and one not for profit around Macomb that does nothing but housing rehab which received six of the 19 grants. To date, the Commission's FY-2017 grants consist of three housing grants with two housing grant resubmissions for a total of five housing rehab grants and two public infrastructure resubmissions and two new public infrastructure grant projects for a total of nine grants to be submitted. Additionally, he noted the staff is moving forward with two economic development grants, for Farina Farms and Farmweld and awaiting word on an Emergency Set-Aside Grant for Altamont.

Patrick then brought up concerning of staff member, Mike Shaw, Grant Manager who is retiring in the spring of 2018. He noted that the grant restriction requirements have become ridiculous that people are learning on the fly how to do grants. Therefore, he contacted David Wortman, Director of DCEO and spoke to him about the retirement of experienced grant administrators, the hiring of new staff and in-house staff taking up administrative duties. Patrick pointed out his concerns that the administration has become so detailed and laborious that he requested that DCEO put on a detailed grant administrators workshop. Wortman agreed that because of the complex nature of the new requirements he would speak to his staff and see what they could come up with for a more detailed training for grant administrators. Patrick noted he would keep the board members up to date of the situation. Taylor asked if someone would be hired to take Shaw's position. Some discussion concerning the budget, grants being a major part of the Commission's income, Eastin shadowing Shaw now, hiring a part-time person, burning out an employee, and bring more details in the fall to the board members. Soltwedel ask if there were any questions or comments concerning the staff reports. There being none, a motion was made by Campbell to approve staff reports as present and a motion was seconded by Burtch (*Approved*).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Patrick reported that the City of Altamont's CDI Loan in the amount of \$123,000 is scheduled to close June 1, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS

Sleep Stores, Inc. (Thompson's) Filed Personal and Business Bankruptcy

Patrick referred to pages 22 and 23, noting Ted & Angie Thompson filed Chapter 7 Bankruptcy both personally and business. Due to the short timeframe that the attorney said he had to prepare for the creditors meeting to be held on June 15, 2017, Patrick gave Antonik permission to attend the meeting and Jeanne sent him the documents needed on May 16, 2017 for his preparation. After the creditors meeting, Antonik will advise the Commission whether there is a possibility of recovering any funds or even feasible to try. Patrick asked what the Commission's odds were in recovering any funds and Antonik answered, slim to none. After a short discussion, Gibson asked that an advertisement to sell mattress's which was posted on Facebook by Angie Thompson be sent to Antonik. He also asked that the staff check with Susan Lyons, CPA of how the remaining balance is calculated as a write off. Patrick asked if there were any further questions concerning Sleep Stores, Inc., there being none, moved on to a letter from Trevor Bissey.

Bissey notified the Commission staff Tuesday afternoon, May 30th that he did not run for Mayor of the Village of Clay City, and he and his wife are moving to Bloomington/Normal by the middle of August 2017. Therefore, he resigns as a Clay County Commissioner. He wrote that he truly enjoyed his time with the board members and staff of the Commission and wished everyone good luck in their endeavors as more bridges are crossed and thanks for letting him serve. Patrick noted he contacted Rod Franklin, Mayor who will serve himself or appoint someone in Bissey's place. Also, Dale Murbarger indicated he would be resigning from the board and talk with the Mayor concerning an appointment.

Patrick reported the Commission's new Internet service with Wabash Communications has great results so far and the phone system will be installed on June 7th.

Patrick moved on to discuss the closing of the Fayette County Bank in St. Elmo, Illinois. The bank was taken over by FDIC and is now being operated by United Fidelity Bank, who has facilities in Indiana, Florida, Colorado, Ohio, etc. The Commission has an ongoing SBA loan application with the bank and upon the news, Jeanne contacted the borrower and the new bank owner, Mark, who said everything was status quo and he and Tom Carley were going that afternoon to visit the SBA borrower. Patrick asked if there were any further questions concerning New Business, there being none, moved on to adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Murbarger and seconded by Burks, to adjourn the Commission's monthly business meeting held on May 30, 2017 (*Approved*). The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

APPROVED THIS, THE 27th DAY OF JUNE, 2017 A.D.

Herb Henson, Corporate Secretary
SCIRPDC

Norbert Soltwedel Chairman
SCIRPDC