



South Central Illinois Regional Planning Development Commission

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

MINUTES MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Joe’s

Effingham, IL

TUESDAY, April 30, 2024

Commissioners Present

David Johnson	Clay County
Herb Henson	Clay County
Robert Bohnhoff	Effingham Co
David Campbell	Effingham Co
Larry Taylor	Effingham Co
Mike Brown	Effingham Co
Sasha Althoff	Effingham Co
Norbert Soltwedel	Effingham Co
Ricky Gottman	Fayette Co
Michael Kleinik	Fayette Co
Mack Payne	Fayette Co
John Roberts	Fayette Co
John Lotz	Fayette Co
Ben Bollman	Jasper County
Angela Fehrenbacher	Jasper County
Mike Hall	Jasper County
Tom Brown	Jasper County
Debbie Smith	Marion County
Gary Purcell	Marion County
Tony Smith	Marion County
Janie Grimes	Marion County

Commissioners Absent

Barry Adair	Clay County
Mike Delonshaw	Clay County
Mike Gill	Clay County
Michael Stanford	Clay County
Jessica Barker	Fayette Co
Karen Booker	Jasper County
RJ Lindemann	Jasper County
Derek Sherman	Marion County
David Armbrust	Marion County

Guests Present:

Staff Present: Luke Eastin, Executive Director
Brooke Frederick, EDA Planner/Loan Portfolio Manager

Vice Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

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

Twenty-one voting Commissioners attended and the Executive Director, constituting a legal quorum.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

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 ✦

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 26th, 2024 Monthly Meeting

Eastin asked if there was any discussion or changes concerning the March 26, 2024 Minutes. Taylor entertained a motion made by Gottman to approve the Minutes as amended. A second was made by Payne. *(Approved)*

BILLS & COMMUNICATIONS

Upcoming Grant Deadlines & Submissions

No new changes. The Illinois Grocery Initiative was recently announced to address food deserts that helps cover the costs of starting up a new business. Certain communities in the region are identified as eligible, however Clay County was not. Expenses can be for start up costs and land acquisition, among other items. Stores employing more than 500 individuals that have 5 or more locations are not eligible for funding.

Eastin also noted that Rebuild Illinois funds are now available for downtowns and main streets. Applications are due in July for projects that include improving roads and sidewalks as well as sewer upgrades, among other expenses. It is a 25% match. Renovation/Construction of buildings and costs of maintaining structures is ineligible.

Commonly Used Acronyms

Included in the board packet is a list of commonly used acronyms.

Taylor entertained a motion made by Payne to approve the Bills & Communications. A second was made by Gottman. *(Approved)*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report from March 16, 2023, through April 15, 2023

Two IRS payments were made for the ERTC reimbursement.

The Business Now Account has an ending balance of \$556,599.45 without ERTC funds. In a separate line item, ERTC funds are at \$128,409.62.

YTD showed \$378,807.47 in revenues and \$328,637.75 in expenses. Eastin expressed issues with DCEO regarding CDBG drawdowns for grant management and the bid process. The review process is taking longer than anticipated, thus delaying receipt of funds.

Page nine reflects the total balance of all at \$518,197.50. Two CDs are coming due.

No significant changes to the loan portfolio.

Taylor entertained a motion made by Gottman to approve the April Treasurer's Report. A second was made by Roberts. *(Approved)*

STAFF REPORT

3/16/2023 – 4/15/2024

Nothing new to report, but different grant seasons are approaching so that might change soon.

COMMITTEE REPORT

No Committee Meetings.

New Business

“Grant of the Month” – DCEO CDBG Public Infrastructure

At the request of current board members during the refresher course, Eastin introduced a new agenda item to review a common grant available to the region each month. The Community Development Block Program-Public Infrastructure should open up in the summer. The maximum has not been announced yet, but is anticipated to be \$550,000. Eligible entities must be registered in GATA and SAM. An IRS-140C letter also must be submitted. All projects must benefit a majority of low-to-moderate income individuals. A major scoring factor is proving health safety (i.e. tracking water main breaks, IEPA letters, etc.). Water rates have to be high enough and all ROW/easements must be owned by the grantee.

Personnel Update

Katie Miller is no longer with SCIRPDC as of March. Executive session was offered to discuss further, but did not take place.

OLD BUSINESS

SCIRPDC 101-Refresher Course.

The SCIRPDC refresher course took place on April 9th with a successful conversation.

Employment Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) Update

In July 2023 , the commission received \$216,000.00, \$789.00, and \$786.00. in ERTC funds Initially, \$49,000 to Innovation refunds for their assistance in obtaining those funds. The IRS sent a letter requesting money back in the amounts of \$27,459.90 in November and \$11,703.00 in January. Per an attorney’s advice, this was sent back. In April 2024, the IRS sent additional letters requesting \$190,376.71 returned to them. If the money from Innovation Refunds is given back, the commission will still have to pay \$12,749.85 out of pocket in interest fees. Another meeting with the attorney is scheduled. Kleinik suggested reaching out to the Attorney General’s office to bring it to their attention. A motion was made by T. Brown to move forward with this plan. A second was made by Gottman. *(Approved)*

Roof Maintenance Update

Eastin noted that he called Shores Construction and that someone was supposed to come out to look at the roof, but they never did. He has reached out to Johannes Construction in Centralia and is continuing to contact others.

ADJOURNMENT

Eastin asked if anyone had anything to comment on or questions regarding the agenda. There being none, Taylor entertained a motion by T. Brown to adjourn the April board meeting at 7:36 p.m. A second was made by Gottman. *(Approved)*

APPROVED THIS, THE 28th DAY OF May 2024 AD.

Jessica Barker, Corp. Secretary
SCIRPDC

Barry Adair, Chairman
SCIRPDC