

ECI REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES– 3RD Quarter / 2018
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, at 3:00 P.M. DELAWARE COUNTY
Innovation Connector – 1208 W White River Blvd - Muncie

Present: Bill Hess, Marta Moody, Mike Burton, Mayor Randy Geesaman, Tanya Hiatt, Don Wimmer, Kenny Birk, Al Stong, Wayne Bailey, Brian Long, Mellissa Acton, Jorge Ortiz, Mayor Kathy Bantz, Randy Dunnuck, Bill Walters, Brad Bookout

1. Welcome / Introductions

Bill Hess called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. Roll Call: Walters completed the roll call with members and guests present noted above.

3. Guest Speaker: Bill Walters introduced Wayne Bailey and Al Stong from Commonwealth Engineering. Commonwealth is working on several water, sewer and public infrastructure projects throughout the region. A summary of services and projects was presented to the group. Discussions took place regarding funding projects and best methods and opportunities for success.

4. Approval of Minutes from May 15, 2018: Moody motioned to approve. Wimmer seconded. Motion carried.

5. Treasurers Report through July 2017: Burton gave the Treasurer's Report by reviewing the Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss. Walters gave an update on affiliate memberships and RFP's that were pending. Hiatt motioned to accept the Treasurers report. Moody seconded. Motion carried.

6. Board President Report: Hess shared his enthusiasm that Blackford County, Hartford City and Montpelier had all unanimously voted to rejoin ECIRPD. Hess anticipated immediately scheduling visioning sessions in Hartford City and Montpelier. There are a lot of projects and potential in Blackford County. Various other discussions took place centered around Blackford County joining of the group.

7. Executive Director Report: Bill Walters shared a list of projects, meetings and highlights of his work for the last four months. Various discussions took place regarding the importance of some of the meetings.

8. New Business:

a. Blackford County joining ECIRPD: Hess noted his previous comments.

b. USDA Grant Award: Bookout shared that ECIRPD was awarded \$68,000 over a two year period to expand regional entrepreneurial business consulting services throughout the region. Ted Baker has agreed to administer the program.

c. SBOA Audit: Walters shared that he is now preparing information for the annual SBOA audit.

d. Affiliate Memberships: Walters noted his previous discussion above about affiliate members.

9. Old Business:

a. D.C. Fly-In update: Walters shared that the trip was a success and it was nice to have Dan Ridenour as a representative from Muncie on the trip.

b. Grant and Delaware Counties EDA Application re Merchant-McIntyre: Bookout shared that the I-69 Grant for an Economic Impact Study was denied by the EDA. However, EDA asked for further information and for the grant to be resubmitted for the next round.

c. Community Crossing Grants for 2018: Walters reported that he has interest from Gaston, Selma, Daleville and he is reaching out to Grant County towns.

d. RFP updates: Walters stated that there were responses/interest to all the RFP's that were published. Leslie Mathewson the attorney was working through the legal process now.

e. Appointment Documents: Walters shared that he is in process of receiving all appointment documents. He stressed the importance of communities completing their appointments to ECIRPD annually.

9. Roundtable Discussion: Hess expressed that he felt that lots of exciting projects were in process and the potential for more project in Blackford County was a good thing. Hess welcomed Mayor Bantz and asked for a federal update from Acton and Ortiz. Various discussions took place regarding federal policy and future opportunities.

10. Adjournment: Hess motioned to adjourn. Moody seconded. Motion carried.

Signed