

ECI REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES– 4th Quarter / 2018
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, at 3:00 P.M. DELAWARE COUNTY
Innovation Connector – 1208 W White River Blvd - Muncie
(Meeting location was changed day of to Whiting & Co. Offices)

Present: Bill Hess, Mike Burton, Tanya Hiatt, Mayor Randy Geesaman, Bill Walters, Mayor Kathy Bantz, James King, Shane Middlesworth, Don Wimmer, Randy Dunnuck, Scott Alexander, John Oxley, Wayne Bailey, Al Stong, Pete Peterson, Kenny Birk, Tom Bouchers, Nick Rhodes, Tinisha Wiggle, Justin Hauges, Angie Moyer, Jeff Larrison, Breque Vanhorn, James King proxy for Mike Foster, Brad Bookout, Bryce Conyers, Richard Treon.

- 1. Welcome/Introductions:** Bill Hess called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- 2. Roll Call:** Walters completed the roll call with those present noted above.
- 3. Approval of Minutes from August 7, 2018:** King motioned to approve the minutes. Hiatt seconded. Motion carried with Middlesworth abstaining.
- 4. Treasurers Report through October 2018:** Burton gave the Treasurer's Report by reviewing the Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss. King motioned to accept the report. Middlesworth seconded. Motion carried.
- 5. Board President Report:** Hess welcomed two Commissioners from Blackford County (Oxley and Rhodes).
- 6. Executive Director Report:** Bill Walters shared a list of projects, meetings and highlights of his work. Walters noted two visioning sessions having been completed in Blackford County. Walters introduced Angie Moyer who is now assisting him.
- 7. New Business:**
 - a. Election of Officers: Hess shared that the Executive Committee approved Hess to remain President for 2019, Moody Vice President, Middlesworth Treasurer, and King Secretary. King motioned to affirm the slate. Middlesworth seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Blackford County, Montpelier, Hartford City: Hess noted the two visioning sessions having been completed. Various committees had been formed as a result and are making good progress.
 - c. Website Update: Walters reported that Farmhouse Creative is in process of updating the website.
 - d. EPA Brownfield Grants: Walters reported that the intent was to apply for a \$450k grant for Grant County, \$300k for Portland and a \$50k TBA grant for Montpelier.
 - e. 2019 Budget: Walters noted the shortfall in the budget that was shared in the Executive Committee meeting, however he referenced various funds from 2018 that had not yet been received. King motioned to approve the budget. Middlesworth seconded. Motion carried.
- 8. Old Business:**
 - a. USDA BEST Grant Update: Bookout reported that ECI had been notified that they were awarded funding to expand business innovation and startup services from the Innovation Connector to some of the rural areas in the region. Information will be forthcoming regarding meetings with Mayor's in Portland, Montpelier and Winchester. Walters noted that ECI would be working closely with Ted Baker on the program.
 - b. Grant & Delaware Counties EDA I-69 Grant Update: Walters reported that he believed the grant would be approved and he looked forward to getting started on the program. Furthermore he noted that the appointment letters for the steering committee had been sent to the participating communities.
 - c. Community Crossing Grant: Walters noted that the Town of Daleville had received \$200k. Another Community Crossing round is likely next year for those interested.
 - d. RFP Update: Bookout reported that seven responses had been returned for all of the issued RFP's. Bookout reviewed some of the locations and the parties who responded. Bookout noted the success of the program and getting properties back on the tax rolls.
 - e. Appointment Documents: Walters said that annual appointment documents would be going out and he encouraged all members to get them returned as quickly as possible.

f. SBOA Update: Walters reported that he is in process with the annual audit and has provided all requested info to the examiner. Some info from the previous director during the time of her fire was not available.

9. Roundtable Discussion:

- Motion of the full board was requested to approve the CEDS plan as previously presented. Motion from King. Second from Geesaman. Motion carried.
- Walters referenced that he had the bylaws amended to account for the inclusion of Blackford County in the organization. Walters shared the revisions and asked for approval of the change. King motioned to approve. Dunnuck seconded. Motion carried.
- Hess thanked Burton and Mayor Geesaman for their service on the Executive Board.
- Hess referenced the loss of Jorge Ortiz State Director for Senator Joe Donnelly who would no longer be attending the meetings. Hess noted the boards appreciation of both Ortiz and Donnelly being supportive of the organizations projects.
- Hess welcomed Tinisha Wiggle and expressed the Boards interest in working cooperatively with her office.

10. Adjournment: Hess adjourned the meeting.

Signed 