



Pike County
Economic Development Corporation
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www.pikeedc.org

Important Reminder!

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gsheurman@pikeedc.org

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2014-2015
PCEDC Board of Directors

Jim Brown
Craig Gengler
Kent Goewey
Lance Kendrick
Taylor Rakers
Steve Schaefer
Jim Sheppard
Karrie Spann
Robert Wood

2014 PCEDC Officers

Chairman: Jim Brown
Vice-Chair: Lance Kendrick
Secretary: Karrie Spann
Treasurer: Taylor Rakers



Development Matters

Volume 3, Issue 3—March/April 2014

Welcome to a Special Edition of *Development Matters*, a monthly newsletter of the Pike County Economic Development Corporation. As a valued member and supporter of PCEDC, you will receive this monthly newsletter to help keep you informed of our activities and possible opportunities for businesses and area organizations. We hope that you will find the information useful and beneficial.

PCEDC is dedicated to our mission to support and expand business and employment by improving the quality of life, utilizing our human and natural resources, and by promoting communication and partnerships throughout Pike County.



Gina Sheurman,
Executive Director

Executive Director's Corner

One year, 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. There are many things that can be done and accomplished in those numbers, and I am proud to say that PCEDC utilized every second, minute, hour and day throughout the past year to work towards organizational goals and action items.

On March 31st, we held our 2014 Annual Meeting of the Pike County Economic Development Corporation at the Pike County Farm Bureau with approximately 30 people in attendance. We thank those that took time out of their schedule to attend this meeting, and we hope that you walked away with a better understanding of what we have accomplished over the last year and what is to come in the future for PCEDC. Our big official announcement of the night was that our office has relocated to a new space at 1301 E. Washington in the Pike County Farm Bureau Building. We feel that this move has a two-fold effect...it allows us to work more effectively with our Fiscal Sponsor, Two Rivers RC&D on grant opportunities and logistically, it just made sense. This move also opens up a space on the square which can be a potential new retail or business location. We thank MECO Engineering for their dedication to assisting us with office space in the past, and we look forward to working more with them in the future.

At our Annual Meeting, we also welcomed new Directors and officers to our Board through our Annual Nominations and Elections. We would first like to thank Kaye Iftner with the Pike County Chamber and Chris Shotts with Shotts, Merryman, & Co., CPAs, who have served on our Board of Directors and in Officer Positions for the past four years. We would also like to congratulate and welcome our new Directors with terms that will expire in 2017—Jim Brown, Taylor Rakers and Jim Sheppard and our 2014 Officers—Chairman Jim Brown, Vice-Chairman Lance Kendrick, Secretary Karrie Spann, and Treasurer Taylor Rakers.

2014 looks to be an exciting year, as you will find in the annual report which follows. We look forward to many collaborations, many partnerships and many successes throughout the next 12 months....and we welcome you to join our team!



2014

Annual Meeting

Monday, March 31st, 2014

6:00pm—Meet & Greet

6:30pm—Annual Meeting & Program

Pike County Farm Bureau

Pittsfield, IL

Mission

The Pike County Economic Development Corporation is a public/private economic development organization in Pike County, Illinois. PCEDC's mission is to support and expand business and employment by improving the quality of life, utilizing our human and natural resources, and by promoting communication and partnerships throughout Pike County.

The organization provides economic development support in the following areas:

- Business Retention & Expansion
 - Business Attraction
- Small Business Development
- Community Development Planning

2013 Officers

Jim Brown, Chairman
Craig Gengler, Vice-Chairman
Kaye Iftner, Secretary
Chris Shotts, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Term Expiring 2014

Kaye Iftner
Pike Co Chamber of Commerce

Jim Sheppard
Pike County Board

Chris Shotts
Shotts, Merryman, & Co, CPAs

Term Expiring 2015

Kent Goewey
City of Griggsville

Karrie Spann
Village of Milton

Robert Wood
City of Pittsfield

Term Expiring 2016

Craig Gengler
Farmers National Bank of Griggsville

Lance Kendrick
City of Barry

Steve Schaefer
Frontier Communications

Gina Sheurman, Executive Director
Two Rivers RC&D—Fiscal Sponsor of PCEDC

OUR OFFICE HAS MOVED!

We are excited to announce that our office has relocated to
1301 E. Washington in Pittsfield, IL

Please note that our phone number, mailing address (PO Box 214),
email and website address are still the same!



If you have any questions,
please contact us at
gshurman@pikecdc.org
or by phone at
217-440-5101

2014 Annual Meeting Agenda

Meet & Greet

Welcome & Call to Order
Jim Brown, PCEDC Chairman

Minutes of 2013 PCEDC Annual Meeting
Kaye Iftner, PCEDC Secretary

Election of Officers and Board of Directors
Jim Brown, PCEDC Chairman

PCEDC Director's Report
Gina Sheurman, PCEDC Executive Director

Special Presentation
"PCEDC—Reflections and Moving Forward"
Gina Sheurman, PCEDC

Public Endorsement of Workforce Readiness Program
Gina Sheurman & Jim Brown

Chairman's Remarks
Jim Brown, PCEDC Chairman

Adjournment
Jim Brown, PCEDC Chairman



A Note from the Chairman—Jim Brown

2013 was a very busy and vibrant year in the Pike County area, and 2014 has gotten off to a very good start as well. The PCEDC committees have all had a very productive year, each working through short term and long term goals. The Business Retention / Workforce Development

Committee was able to implement the Workforce Readiness Certificates Program in all 4 school districts in Pike County. This was a plan that was started last year, and through our collaborative efforts with the Workforce Investment Board of Western Illinois and funding through the Tracy Family Foundation, we were able to get implemented in the second semester of this current school year. We feel this will be a very positive program, which will give the students who participate a distinct advantage to other students who are not as well equipped with the desired soft skill employers are needing.

The Small Business/Entrepreneurship Committee was able to hold our first annual Inventors and Products Fair in April of 2013 and the plans are in place for our second annual event this April. We saw several of our members expand and move to new locations, and many other activities throughout the county show that we are progressing and moving forward in our efforts. Looking towards the next year, there are several new projects and new prospective projects on the horizon, and I feel that with the dedication and activities of our committees and organization, we are looking to have another successful year ahead.

Executive Director's Corner—Gina Sheurman



As we celebrate the last year tonight, I have been hit with the realization that I will mark two years as the Executive Director for PCEDC in just a few short weeks. Looking back at the last two years, it truly amazes me what our collaborations and work have produced. We have overcome great challenges to make progress towards our mission of supporting and expanding business and employment here in Pike County. I am grateful for the many collaborative efforts and opportunities that have led to great success—but our work is never truly done, as we prepare for tomorrow and the future beyond. Our committees have grown and they continue to move prosperously towards their short-term and long-term goals, creating a base for what has become a fluid working plan for our organization. While there are many things that stand out as moments of pride throughout the last year, it is the simple aspect of our community coming together in a unified voice to address the needs and issues in our county that stands above the rest. Drawing off the current March Madness Season of Basketball, the great Kareem Abdul-Jabar once said— "Five Guys on the court working together can achieve more than five talented individuals who come and go as individuals." We thank you for being a part of our team and working with us towards success and prosperity in Pike County. Thank you for not only your support and dedication, but your living commitment that Pike County is a great place for to live and work!

The work of PCEDC would not be possible without the support of our members and the communities, organizations and businesses they represent. Thank you to the following members for your support and dedication over the last year:

Voting Members

*Access Illinois/Two Rivers RC&D	Ameren	CNB Bank & Trust
Cass Communications	Central State Bank	City of Barry
City of Griggsville	City of Pittsfield	County Market/Niemann Foods
Farmers Bank of Liberty	Farmers National Bank of Griggsville	Farmers State Bank
First National Bank of Barry	Frontier Communications	Illini Community Hospital
Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative	John Wood Community College	KCI Satellite, Inc.
MECO Engineering Co, Inc.	Pike County Board	*Pike Co Chamber of Commerce
Pike County Farm Bureau	*Pittsfield Main Street	Prairie Power
Quincy Newspapers, Inc.	*Shotts, Merryman & Co. CPAs	Village of Milton
Village of New Salem	Village of Pearl	*WBBA

Contributing Members

Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit, & Gray PC	Beard Implement-Barry Facility	Beard Implement-Pittsfield Facility
Bow Lake Golf Course	Casteel Color Wheel	Harry Wright
Heaton Chevrolet-Oldsmobile	Jones Poultry	Klingner & Associates, PC
McDonalds—Pat & Pam Cooney	Oitker Ford	Pike County Lumber
Pike County Storage	Sharkey Transportation	Sprague’s Kinderhook Lodge
Thiele’s Garage	Two Rivers FS	William Watson Hotel

Associate Members

Babe’s Smokehouse	Barber Insurance Agency	Barry Community Care Center
Brookside Marketing	Jerry Rodhouse	Karen K. Borrowman, CPA
Lincolnland Mechanical, LLC	Logan Agri-Service, Inc.	Northwestern Mutual
Pike Press/Campbell Publications	Smith Agri Service, Inc.	United Community Bank

If you are interested in becoming a member or know someone that would benefit from becoming a member, please contact our office at 217-440-5101 or by email at gsheurman@pikeedc.org.

PCEDC Year in Review

April, May & June 2013

April

- Elected Officials' Meeting in Griggsville
- Pearl Playground Build
- Workforce Investment Board Youth Council Meeting
- Inaugural Inventors & Product Fair
- Outreach at Western High School
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting

May

- Downtown Revitalization Meeting
- E-Team E-Summit Meeting
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting
- Manufacturing Awareness Meeting
- Pittsfield Main Street Annual Meeting

June

- Assistance with New Revolving Loan Fund Loan
- Newly Elected Officials Meeting
- PCEDC YouTube Channel Created
- Workforce Readiness Grant Submitted to Tracy Foundation
- Meeting with GREDF
- DCEO CDAP Grant Administrator Workshop
- Meeting with Tracy Family Foundation
- Tri-State Mini Summit
- CDC Meeting
- WIB Meeting & Presentation

July, August, & September 2013

July

- Accommodations Tax Funding Advisory Board Began Meeting
- Business Education Roundtable
- Business Retention Visits
- Elected Officials Meeting
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting
- Chamber Ribbon Cutting for Pike County Lumber

August

- Midwest Community Development Institute—Year Two
- WIB Network Meeting
- Meeting with County on County Website
- Farm Bureau Steak Fry
- Membership Drive in Barry
- SWOT Analysis sent to Members
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting
- ICN Meeting
- Farmers State Bank Lunch 'n Learn
- Rotary Presentation
- Resume Review Workshop

September

- WIB Manufacturing Roundtable
- RMAP Grant Application
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting
- Meeting with Heartland Lodge Blogger
- Meeting with Clean Line Energy
- Chamber of Commerce Cookout

October, November & December 2013

October

- WIB Meeting
- Outreach at Pittsfield High School
- Blackstone Charitable Foundation Grant
- DCEO Forum
- IEZA Fall Conference
- DCEO Survey to members
- Findley Place Groundbreaking
- Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting

November

- Outreach at Pleasant Hill High School
- Outreach at Griggsville High School
- Elected Officials Meeting
- Business Education Roundtable
- RCDI Grant
- USDA Grant Applications for Three Projects
- U of I Extension Youth Leadership Academy Business Presentations & Evaluations
- Junior Achievement Sessions Begin at Western Elementary
- Meeting with Emex
- TRRCOPO CEDS Meeting
- USDA Great Regions Designation Announcement
- YPike! Lunch 'n Learn

December

- PCHD Dental Clinic Open House
- WIB Meeting
- Junior Achievement Sessions at Western Elementary
- Outreach at Western High School
- U of I Extension Youth Leadership Academy Legislative Day
- Pike County Community Health Partnership Annual Meeting

January, February, & March 2014

January

- Morgan County CEO Luncheon
- Pike County Board Finance/Ag Committee Joint Meeting & Grain Belt Presentation
- GREDF Annual Meeting
- Advantage IL Workshop
- JWCC Candidate Forums
- Semi-Annual Report for Revolving Loan Fund and Meeting with County Auditors
- First Collection Period for the Local Accommodations Tax

February

- Business Education Roundtable
- Business Retention Visits
- Elected Officials Meeting / Code Hearing Presentation
- U of I Extension Youth Leadership Academy Graduation
- Downtown Business Forum
- Griggsville City Council Meeting
- Meeting with Montgomery County Economic Development

March

- Rural Community Economic Development Conference
- CDAP Workshop
- Tri-State Summit Connectivity Taskforce Meeting
- Rotary Reality Days
- Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting
- Spring Creek Fire Protection USDA Grant Application Process

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the Pike County Economic Development Corporation (PCEDC) was held on Thursday, April 4, 2013 at the Pike County Farm Bureau Building. The meeting was called to order by Board president Jim Sheppard at 6:30 PM following a brief "Meet & Greet". Approximately 35 city, county and business representatives and guests were in attendance. A list of attendees is available on request. President Sheppard verified with Kaye Iftner, corporation secretary, that the requirement for a quorum was met- either in person or by proxy and the business meeting continued.

Welcome & Overview from Jim Sheppard:

Mr. Sheppard welcomed members and guests. Although 2012 was a year full of changes, PCEDC continues to work towards its purpose (per its by-laws): to enhance the economic future and quality of life in Pike County by expanding employment opportunities through promoting the expansion and retention of business and industry, coordinating local and state resources to existing businesses, and by uniting the Pike County community by coordinating economic developmental activities and cultivating partnerships. Jim thanked the 2012 Board of Directors for their service the past year. The past five directors from the public sector were Kent Goewey from the City of Griggsville, Karrie Graham from the Village of Milton, Lance Kendrick from the City of Barry, Robert Wood from the City of Pittsfield, and Jim Sheppard from the Pike County Board. The four directors from the private sector were Chris Scotts from Shotts, Merryman & Co., Craig Gengler from Farmers National Bank of Griggsville, Kaye Iftner from the Pike County Chamber of Commerce and Steve Schaefer from Frontier. Finally, Jim recognized the efforts of Gina Sheurman, whom we were fortunate to find following the resignation of Christa Perkins, who moved back to Iowa for personal reasons. Gina hit the ground running and has done a great job.

Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting:

Minutes from the 2012 Annual meeting, which had been held on March 15, 2012 at Hopewell Winery in Summer Hill, were provided by Board Secretary Kaye Iftner. There being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Kent Goewey moved to approve the minutes, Max Middendorf seconded. Motion carried.

Election of Board of Directors and Officers:

The slate of nominations for directors was presented for voting. Nominees for the three open director positions: Craig Gengler of Farmers National Bank of Griggsville, Lance Kendrick from the City of Barry, and Steve Schaefer from Frontier Communications. There was a call for nominations from the floor. There being no additional nominations, the nominations were closed. Kent Goewey moved to approve the nominations, Harry Wright seconded, motion carried. A slate of officers was presented: Jim Brown of County Market was proposed as president, Craig Gengler as vice-president, Chris Shotts as treasurer and Kaye Iftner as secretary. There was a call for nominations from the floor. There being no additional nominations, the nominations were closed. Harry Wright moved to approve the nominations, Kent Goewey seconded, motion carried.

Overview of 2012 Activities by Gina Sheurman, Executive Director:

Gina reported on PCEDC activities throughout the 11 months since she joined PCEDC. One of the most significant accomplishments has been the reorganization of the standing committees which have been meeting regularly and making great progress. Gina gave a brief report on each committee:

The Community Need/Municipal Issues Committee has focused on addressing the community needs in Pike County and the opportunities and resources that PCEDC can provide. The committee worked developed an Accommodations (hotel /motel) Tax Ordinance proposal that was passed by the Pike County Board on February 25th, 2013.

The Small Business/Entrepreneurship Committee has updated and expanded a Business Resource Guide- a detailed, step by step, guide for those interested in starting or acquiring a business in Pike County. They are also currently working on an Inventors and Product Fair to be held April 27th at the Pittsfield JWCC Campus from 9am to 2pm.

The Promotions / Marketing / Membership Committee has focused on addressing the promotional, marketing and membership aspect of PCEDC. The committee has worked to review our membership benefits and increase and enhance the benefits we provide to members. Through the efforts of this committee, PCEDC has established several promotional efforts on TV, Radio and Newspapers, as well as creating a presence on Social Media and the Internet.

The Renewable Energy / Telecommunications Committee focuses on staying abreast of renewable energy trends and projects, while working to identify needs and opportunities in Pike County in the area of Renewable Energy. Telecommunications is an area that the group will engage in, working to bring up to date technology to the County and our businesses and individuals. The group has been involved with the Ameren Illinois Rivers Project updates, Clean Line Energy Updates, Wind Tax Credit, Electrical Aggregation issues and the Illinois Century Network.

The Workforce Committee focuses on the workforce in Pike County and the opportunities and resources that PCEDC can provide to employers, current workforce and prospective workforce. This committee works hand in hand with the Quarterly Business Education Roundtables to bridge the gap between the business community and the educational community. They have adopted a program from Brown County's "Ready for College, Ready for Work" program to create an exciting opportunity for schools in Pike County. The committee has researched and created a Workforce Readiness Program, which will provide students in Pike County the opportunity to achieve certificates that promote the soft skills that employers desire.

Ms. Sheurman thanked the committees and the board for their support, and expressed gratitude for the many collaborations that have contributed to the success PCEDC has experienced. She is very excited about the future.

Guest Speaker:

Ms. Sheurman then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Rich Niemann, Jr., President and CEO of Niemann Foods, Inc. Rich spoke on the importance of values of Rural America and keeping family and faith at the forefront, along with how these values play into their company's Traditions concept. Niemen Foods, Inc. is a family/associate owned retail grocery business that currently operates over 100 stores in three states and is the largest independently owned grocer in central Illinois. NFI owns and operates the area's County Markets, County Market Express Convenience Stores, and Health Mart Pharmacies. NFI also owns some Pic a Dilly Convenience stores, Save- a Lot, ACE Hardware and Pet Supplies Plus stores. Rich joined the Company in 1977, following his graduation from the University of Illinois with a degree in Marketing/Business Administration. He became General Manager in 1980, was appointed Chief Operating Officer and President in 1990 and was then promoted in 2005 to his current position as Chief Executive Officer. Rich is active in National, State and local organizations. He is Vice Chairman of the National Grocers Association, and serves on the boards of IL Food Retailers Association, Transitions of Western IL Foundation, and State Street Bank.

Gina thanked Mr. Niemen for his presentation and for being a part of PCEDC's Annual Meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

PCEDC Committee Updates & 2014 Work Plan

Community Needs/Municipal Issues

The Community Needs/Municipal Issues Committee focus is to address community and municipal needs in Pike County, while providing opportunities and valuable resources. The committee continues to work on the Quarterly Elected Officials Meetings, as well as following progress being made on the Local Accommodations Tax Ordinance. A follow-up survey was conducted by this committee in response to a DCEO forum, and by the recommendation of this committee, PCEDC became a member of the Illinois Enterprise Zone Association to better inform our members and area of changes to the Enterprise Zone.

The 2014 Work Plan for the Community Needs/Municipal Issues Committee includes:

1. Plan & Host Rural Economic Development Roundtable
2. Plan & Co-host Elected Officials Meetings
3. Implement Grant Writing Fee Schedule

Promotions/Marketing/Membership

The Promotions/Marketing/Membership Committee focuses on addressing the promotional, marketing and membership aspect of PCEDC. Throughout the past year, the committee has continued to review and reorganize our member benefits. A YouTube Channel was created for PCEDC to better reach our audience. The committee has also began the initial work on branding/image and website development for PCEDC.

The 2014 Work Plan for the Promotions/Marketing/Membership Committee includes:

1. Branding / Website Development
2. Membership and Membership Benefits Development
3. PCEDC Intern

Renewable Energy/Telecommunications

The Renewable Energy/Telecommunications Committee works to stay abreast on renewable energy trends and also projects that could impact our area. The committee has been involved with updates on the Ameren IL Rivers Project, Clean Line Energy, and the Illinois Century Network. Through the recommendation of this committee, PCEDC signed a letter of support for Marine Highway Designation for the Upper Mississippi River. The committee also moved forward in discussions with the County Board on the importance and need for a County Website.

The 2014 Work Plan for the Renewable Energy/Telecommunications Committee includes:

1. Work with County Board to Establish County website
2. Increase Public Knowledge of Transportation Issues and US 54 Bridge
3. Continuous Updates on Renewable Energy and Telecommunication Projects in Region

Small Business/Entrepreneurship

The Small Business/Entrepreneurship Committee plays a critical role in the daily services we provide to Pike County businesses. Small businesses are the heart and soul of Pike County, and this committee created and hosted an Inventor & Product Fair in 2013 to address ongoing needs and resources of entrepreneurs and small businesses. In collaboration with Pittsfield Main Street and the Pike County Chamber of Commerce, we co-hosted an Advantage IL Workshop for local lenders to introduce additional financing options available through the state. This committee also worked to promote and distribute a Business Resource Guide.

The 2014 Work Plan for the Small Business/Entrepreneurship Committee includes:

1. Plan and Host Annual Inventor & Product Fair
2. Incubator Education & Development
3. Business Planning Focus through Workshops
4. Potential Mapping Project

Business Retention / Workforce Development

The Business Retention/ Workforce Development Committee has had an extremely busy but successful year. While workforce development continues to be an ongoing issue and focus in not only this area, but in the region and nation, PCEDC took the reins and adopted a program to address the workforce gap that exists when talking about soft skills. Through grant funding by the Tracy Family Foundation, PCEDC worked with the four school districts in Pike County to launch and implement a Workforce Readiness Certificate Program for high school seniors. The committee has also moved forward with Quarterly Business Education Roundtables as a way to continue to bridge the gap between the business community and the educational community.

The 2014 Work Plan for the Business Retention / Workforce Development Committee includes:

1. Identify & Address Current and Emerging Workforce Readiness
2. Research and develop plan for Mentoring
3. Enhance and develop Business Retention Visits and program

If you are interested in serving on one of our committees, please sign up at the end of tonight's program or contact our office at 217-440-5101 or by email at gsheurman@pikeedc.org.

Not a Member?
Know Someone Who May Benefit from a Membership?

It is because of the generosity of business and community partners that we are able to fulfill our mission to enhance the economic future and quality of life in Pike County by expanding employment opportunities through promoting the expansion and retention of business and industry, coordinating local and state resources to existing businesses, and by uniting Pike County community by coordinating economic development activities and cultivating partnerships. We are fortunate to have many great partnerships in the area that have helped us to promote economic development. Economic Development is a collaborative environment, where communities, businesses and individuals work together for the good of the entire county. We value the partnerships between our member businesses, organizations and individuals and welcome the opportunity to work together. If you are not part of our growing network, we invite you to become a member of PCEDC by simply filling out the information below and mail the form and payment to :

Pike County Economic Development Corporation
PO Box 214
Pittsfield, IL 62363

We thank you for your continued support to the growth and development of Pike County!

Name: _____ Title: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____ Website: _____
Name/description as you would like it to appear in our membership directory: _____

Membership Investment:

Associate (\$1-\$99) Contributing (\$100-\$499) Voting (\$500 +)
 Local Government (per capita / population: _____)
Reciprocal (with approval) _____

More information on membership benefits is available by visiting www.pikeedc.org

