**Pike County Economic Development Corporation**

**Quarterly Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Pike County Farm Bureau Conference Room**

**July 27, 2020**

**Attendees**

Brenda Middendorf, Jim Sheppard, Patrick Conley, Jim Brown, Jeff Hogge, Kent Goewey, Dallas Thueringer, Craig Gengler

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Conley, Chairman, at 5:30pm.

**Minutes**

Meeting agenda and minutes of the June 22, 2020 meeting were provided via email to members and were available for review. Jim Sheppard made the motion to approve the minutes, Jeff Hogge seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Financial report was summarized. July 24, 2020 Balance Sheet-Total Liabilities & Equity $93,183.25. Profit &Loss, June 17-July 24. 2020-Net Income $778.27. Profit & Loss, January-July, 2020-Net Income $23741.11. Income by Customer Survey January 1-June 17, 2020-Total $22,324.00. Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison January 1-July 24, 2020 $23,741.11. vs January 1-June 17, 2019 $12,718.42.

**Marketing Report**

Brenda Middendorf reported on behalf of Gary Camarano that they would be receiving instruction on how to create 360 degree virtual tours of available sites on Zoomprospector.

**Director’s Report**

Brenda Middendorf summarized her written report. A DCEO webinar asked for opinions of businesses that had not been helped with COVID 19 funding to date. Brenda pointed out wineries had been left out. Other mentioned the minimum revenue of $80,000 was too high for rural area barber shops and salons. Fast Track grants are being reviewed at this time. A FastTrack for Pike County was submitted and a Rebuilding Illinois ED was submitted for City of Pittsfield.

**Old Business**

U S Census update- As soon as more funding becomes available, it is hoped that TV commercials, newspaper ads and the hotspots can be purchased. Newspaper ads would emphasize the ability to use the phone to complete the Census. Pike is at 61.1%; Barry – 69%; Griggsville – 50%; Pittsfield – 71.1%; Pleasant Hill – 61.3%; Nebo – 42.6%; Pearl – 25.7%; Kinderhook – 61.7%; New Canton 55.1%. Question was raised as to how they now these percentages. Jim Sheppard pointed out that if the population drops below 15,000, Pike County could see higher property taxes.

**New Business**

New Intern position- Miranda Lambert did not chose Pike County. There will be four new interns to interview to begin in January. Brenda was concerned about keeping the current apartment due to a shortage of rental properties and proposed working with PCF/AC to keep the apartment available for a new intern. It’s possible PeaceCorps could reduce our match to offset the cost. Consensus of the board was to take the risk of finding a new location. Furniture in the apartment will be relocated until new intern arrives.

Update on New Businesses – Brenda has been working with Renewable Natural Gas Co to create a plant near Hickory Ridge Landfill to capture the methane gas and convert it to a useable form of natural gas. She has also been working with Dorsey Ag Projects to locate a CBD production facility in the former Big River Fish building. Both are interested in being included in the Enterprise Zone.

Meeting Format – It was decided to go back to including all members for the August meeting.

Tire Collection - Pike County Health Department is hosting a 2020 Used Tire Collection for local units of government. Collection dates are August 7 and 8th at the Western Illinois Fairgrounds. Drop off times are from 8-5 on each day.

No Closed Session needed. All business and discussion were conducted in Open Session

**Chairman’s Comments**

None

**Visitor Comments**

No visitors present

**Member Updates & Comments**

Jeff Hogge-Fish Plant is operating.

Jim Brown – relayed problems with interviewing applicants. The BR/WD Committee will be meeting in August to try to modify the Work Ready program.

Dallas – reported this was his last meeting. The board expressed their gratitude for his service.

Jim Sheppard – discussed highlights of the pending County Board meeting

**Adjournment**

With business concluded, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Kent Goewey, Jim Brown seconded. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 6:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brenda Middendorf on behalf of Karrie Spann, Secretary.

Next Executive /Voting Meeting: Monday, July 27, 2020.

Next Quarterly Meeting: Monday, September 28, 2020.