**Pike County Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes**

**Quarterly Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Pike County Farm Bureau Conference Room**

**October 28, 2019**

**Attendees**

Brenda Middendorf, Karrie Spann, Patrick Conley, Max Middendorf, Jeff Hogge, Jim Brown, Jim Sheppard, Dallas Thueringer, Craig Gengler, Shawn Rennecker, Diane Vose, Robert Wood, Diana Halmick-City of Pittsfield EDC.

 **Call to Order**

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

**Minutes**

Meeting agenda and September Board Meeting Minutes we reviewed. After review, Max Middendorf made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Robert Wood seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Brenda Middendorf summarized the financial report. Balance Sheet as of October 23, 2019, Current Assets $18,885.13, Total Liabilities & Equity $77,596.51. Profit & Loss September 23, 2019-October 24, 2019, Gross Profit $1,653.73, Total Expenses $11,245.54, -$9,591.81 Net Income. Profit & Loss January 1, 2019-October 23, 2019, Total Program Income $55,682.19, Total Income $55,682.19, Travel and Meetings $48,994.62, Net Income $6,687.57. Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison, January 1-October 23, 2019 $6687.57, January 1-October 23, 2018 $12,929.20. Income by Customer Summary $35,310.00.

**Marketing & Attraction Report**

Continue to work with Project AP on financing, Bedford Group Opportunity Fund, InvestUS Opportunity Fund, IL DECO incentives. Will work with Brenda to update available properties in Pike County on Zoomprospector. Will attend “Passport to the World” on November 5.

**Interim Director’s Report**

Hosted consultant to work with local businesses on Opportunity Zone Funding, meet with local businesses & CEO of Project AP, Collect and provide data on business losses to DCEO for appeal to disaster funding exclusion. Ads for Small Business Workshop series, Work Ready Rollouts at Pikeland and Griggsville schools.

**Enter into Closed Session for Voting Members**

Motion was made to go into closed session by Jim Brown, Craig Gengler second. Motion carried. Entered Closed Session at 6:00pm.

**Old Business**

US Census- Grants have been established to go out to 30 organizations in Illinois that will serve as Regional Intermediaries for the 2020 Census. Western Illinois Regional Council is possibly going to be the Regional Intermediary. Regional Intermediaries will then select local organizations within their region and make additional grants. This will ensure funding goes directly to organizations that are on the front lines and best equipped to connect with Illinoisans in urban, rural and other hard-to-reach communities. The Organization must be GATA certified and have a written plan. Brenda Middendorf stated that PCEDC meets that criteria. She would like to pursue becoming the Local Census organization.

Electronic Recycling-at least 40 tube TV’s were taken to be recycled. The cost was $800. The canopy has been taken down and moved to Hollywood Appliances.

Tri State Summit-Important that we keep pushing the Hwy 54 project. Difficult to get a map of areas currently served with Broadband. Important to have a Tri State Broadband Committee, Broadband expansion is priority of the Illinois Governor.

**New Business**

Revolving Loan Fund-City of Pittsfield-CINTAS is expanding and has extra space for other business development. Continue to close out County Loans.

MAPPING Updates-Disc Golf Course opening, exciting, encouraging and well received. 17 teams from St. Louis to Springfield participated in the Tournament. Great Kiosk at the course. $200 for a two year sponsorship, sponsorships are still available. $3000 in sponsorships have been raised. Plans to add restroom facilities.

Lower Illinois Valley Rural Prosperity Initiative-Shawn Rennecker briefed members on the activities. They have been meeting for over a year and discussion various rural initiatives, local importance, visiting stakeholders and generating ideas and funding for those ideas.

Opportunity Zone-meeting with the consultant was very beneficial and informative, it is a complicated process.

**Chairman’s Comments**

None

**Visitor Comments**

None

**Member Updates & Comments**

Karrie Spann- Fiber project with Illinois Rural Electric in the Village of Milton hopefully happening soon.

Jim Brown-New employee coming to County Market and to live in Pittsfield from Los Vegas.

Craig Gengler-Interest rates are still good but lower rates may be coming.

Robert Wood-Mural on West Adams, new businesses in the Red Dome building, infrastructure projects.

Shawn Rennecker-CEO breakfast at JWCC, new manager at Illinois Rural Electric-Randy Long, Connect America Fund-improving wireless service throughout rural areas, new project in Calhoun County.

Diane Vose-JWCC hosting CEO program this quarter, admissions event tomorrow night for all interested in attending JWCC, Collage Rotary Club-bedding drive, can drop off new bedding at JWCC, increase in enrollment of 1% at John Wood, Early Childhood classes to be offered in the Spring, 102 GED tests given at JWCC from October 2018-Otober 2019, December 6-Visit with Santa free event.

Jim Sheppard-Pike County Board, budget was delivered to the accountants this morning.

Jeff Hogge-*Ascend Illinois* is hiring, currently picking their first harvest and possibly expanding, Fish project is at a standstill, street projects in the City of Barry.

Brenda Middendorf-ACCESS food program is going great this year with the new processor. New processor has had donors sign up for a Farm and Home gift card with their donation. Brenda has ordered deer pins, donations are up. Christmas Lodge Tour is nearly full, in Rural Partners Magazine.

**Exit Closed Session**

A motion was made to exit closed session by Robert Wood, Max Middendorf seconded. Motion carried. Exit Closed Session at 6:43pm.

Craig Gengler made a motion to pursue PCEDC becoming the Local Organization for the US Census, Robert Wood, second. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

With business concluded, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Diane Vose, second, Jim Brown. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karrie Spann, Secretary.

Next Quarterly Meeting: December 23, 2019