**County Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**Teleconference**

**April 27, 2020**

**Attendees**

Brenda Middendorf, Gary Camarano, Jeff Hogge, Dallas Thueringer, Jim Brown, Robert Wood, Kent Goewey, Karrie Spann

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Karrie Spann, Secretary, at 5:33pm.

**Minutes**

Meeting agenda and the 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed. After review, Kent Goewey made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Jeff Hogge seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Financial Reports were emailed to members prior to the meeting. Reports included *P&L January 1, 2020 – April 21, 2020; P&L March 31, 2020-April 21, 2020; P&L Comparison Sheet By Year; Income by Customer Survey—January 1, 2020-April 21, 2020* and the *Balance Sheet as of April 21, 2020* (see attached). Brenda Middendorf summarized the statements. There were no questions involving the Financial Reports. Robert Wood made the motion to place the Financial Reports on file, Kent Goewey, second. Motion carried.

**Marketing Report**

Gary Camarano summarized his marketing report. Prior to COVID, the focus was on the aquaponics project. COVID has put this on hold. Hopefully it will proceed once everything gets back to normal. Working to expand the Film Office presence with locations etc., Brenda Middendorf is the Film Office liaison. Trade Shows have come to a halt.

**Director’s Report**

Upcoming activities have been suspended. Brenda Middendorf and Dallas Thueringer are working mostly from home. Blake Roderick, Pike County Farm Bureau, has kept the office open for employees.

**Enter into Closed Session for Voting Members**

There was no closed session held during this meeting

**Old Business**

Census Update – Dallas did a video and posted on FB with different business logos. Submitted an invoice to Western Illinois Regional Council for our expenses to date so should be getting some reimbursement for the City of Barry and our expenses. Barry wanted reimbursement, Brenda will need a check to be signed.

RBEG Grant—Brenda Middendorf submitted a grant for technical assistance for small businesses. This is the same grant that we were previously awarded.

Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program-Struggle has been to find businesses that qualify for this grant. Clarifications following the issuance of the first Guidebook, eliminated all the business we has thought would qualify. PCEDC will continue to promote the program.

EIDL & PPP Programs—Several local businesses have received the PPP. Totals thus far for Pike County Banks: Great Rivers Bank - $3.1 Million; FSB - $3 Million; UCB - $2.7; FNBG - $425,000 and Central State Bank - $280,000. Another round started at 9:30am today. Also heard of several businesses getting the EIDL grant/loan. There are other programs for minority or women owned businesses and Brenda has shared that info. Also a loan through TRRCOPO.

**New Business**

CD renewal—CD was renewed for 13 months at 1%, other options disappeared before the April regular meeting.

Accommodations Tax grants & program to assist hotels/lodges—Accommodations Tax Advisory Board is making the following recommendations through the County EDC at the Pike County Board meeting:

1. Offer deferred payment of 1st and 2nd quarter taxes until end of year

2. Suspend grant awards until September schedule and then review status.

3. Offer a rebate of taxes up to $75,000 paid to lodges current up through 4th quarter of 2019 equal to the percentage of what they have paid into the Accommodations tax for assistance in marketing. A new application will be drafted and the amount they are eligible to receive included for their option to participate.

JWCC Golf Fundraiser-it was previously approved to donate to the JWCC Golf Fundraiser. Due to COVID the event was canceled. This commitment was discussed, it was the consensus to have Brenda write a note to President Elbe and state that PCEDC is committed to contributing but are holding contribution for now.

**Chairman’s Comments**

None

**Visitor Comments**

None

**Member Updates & Comments**

Jeff Hogge: Some employees are working from home, it seems to be going well. Lots of home improvements taking place.

Jim Brown: preparing for mask wearing, Wash n Win Laundry Mat & service will hopefully be opening the first week of June. Garden Center will be in operation tomorrow, things are crazy but supply is improving.

Kent Goewey:  *SSSSMMMMOOOOOOOOTH SAILING*

Robert Wood: The City of Pittsfield has reduced staff in the office. A lot of people are using the City Lake, and disc golf course. Repainting the swimming pool may start this week, new Economic Director is Ed Knight, working with Brenda on grants/loans.

**Adjournment**

With business concluded, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Robert Wood, Kent Goewey, second. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karrie Spann, Secretary

Next Executive/Voting/teleconference meeting May 25, 2020

Next Quarterly Meeting June 22, 2020