**Pike County Economic Development Corporation**

**Executive Board Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Pike County Farm Bureau Building**

**September 27, 2021**

**Attendees**

Brenda Middendorf, Camden Arnold, Karrie Spann, Patrick Conley, Jeff Hogge, Kent Goewey, David Camphouse, Kent Goewey, Blake Roderick.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was held in person at the Pike County Farm Bureau building. Members we also able to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Patrick Conley, Chairman, at 5:33pm.

**Minutes**

Meeting agenda and minutes of the August 23, 2021 meeting were provided via email to members for review. Kent Goewey made the motion to approve the minutes. Jeff Hogge, second. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Brenda Middendorf summarized the written Financial Reports. Jeff Hoegge made the motion to place the Financial Report on file, Kent Goewey, second. Motion carried.

**Director’s Report**

Brenda Middendorf summarized her written report.

**Quarterly Committee Updates**

**Business Retention & Workforce Development-**Brenda Middendorf continues to check in with Guidance Counselors to see what is the best option for meetings this school year? Last year, we created modules that can be done online for credit. These were YouTube videos on preparing a resume, filling out a job application, interviews, etc. After each module, there was be a set of questions to be completed for proof of viewing. In lieu of the Work Ready Certificate, a Certificate of Completion could then be awarded based on the number of modules completed. With this type of format, it was felt we could open it up enrollment to students in other grades, not just sophomores. We are also checking with the Guidance Counselors to see if they want to try doing a Zoom Business Education Roundtable with local businesses. In person Resume Workshops may be able to be resumed at some point.

**Small Business/Entrepreneurship-**Brenda Middendorf has scheduled the next series of Small Business classes to begin in February at JWCC. Jim Boyd, Small Business Development Center, will be the instructor. Up to 7 individuals will be allowed to participate in the JWCC Classroom. The speaker will be virtual via Zoom.

**Municipal Issues/ Community Needs-**An Elected Officials meeting was held in August. Topic at the meeting included Code Hearing issues, the Health Department discussed the Tire Collection and mosquito testing; PCEDC discussed the next round of grants for businesses and a speaker provided information on claiming ARPA funds.

**Renewable Energy Committee-**The Renewable Energy Committee has been following the recently passed Illinois energy legislation. Of major concern, is that the bill also gives eminent domain power to merchant power brokers like Invenergy (Grain Belt). It also makes private companies building renewable energy projects (wind, solar, carbon capture sequestration, and (maybe) ethanol companies pay prevailing wage.

**Old Business**

**Pike County RLF –** Environmental Pre-review has been completed. Completing some additional documents and then we can post the Notice of No Significant Impact and Request funding.

**Census Update –** Working with Macomb in order to get information on what it would take for a recount. Macomb has requested a Census recount. Last time it cost Macomb $95,000 but the result was worth it to them. Recounts only do certain census tracts. Macomb is checking with the US Census bureau to see if the municipality will have to pay for a recount.

**Small Business Community Navigator Program –** Griggsville, Nebo, El Dara, Pearl, New Canton, Nebo are 100% complete. Pittsfield is probably 95% complete. Still need to work on Kinderhook and Pleasant Hill. Milton and Hull did not have any qualifying businesses.

**CPACE –** Ordinance passed the County Board. Aquaponics program is moving forward. Another grant has become available that could pertain to this project. Glenn Ford will probably make a site visit in October.

**New Business**

None

**Chairman’s Comments**

None

**Visitor’s Comments**

None

**Member Comments**

**Jeff Hogge-**Preparations underway for Apple Festival

Kent Goewey- Smooth Sailing in Griggsville.

Brenda Midendorf-Preparing for deer donations.

David Camphouse-Girls Night Out will be Nov. 4.

**Adjournment**

With business concluded, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Kent Goewey, Jeff Hogge, second. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 6:15pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karrie Spann, Secretary.