

**Northern Indiana Regional Development Authority
Board Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2015 – 12:00 PM (EST)**

The November 9, 2015 meeting of the Northern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) was held at Swan Lake Resort and Conference Center, 5203 Plymouth LaPorte Trail, Plymouth, Indiana 46563. John Affleck-Graves called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and it was noted there was a quorum present.

RDA Board Members Present: John Affleck-Graves, University of Notre Dame
 Regina Emberton, Michiana Partnership
 Dallas Bergl, INOVA Federal Credit Union
 John DeSalle, Hoosier Racing Tire Corp.
 Pete McCown, Elkhart County Community Foundation

RDA Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jerry Chavez, Marshall County Economic Development Corporation
 Mary Jan Hedman, St. Joe Valley Metronet
 Ben Miller, St. Joe Valley Metronet
 Erin Roznik, Michiana Area Council of Governments

 Stephen Studer, Krieg DeVault LLP
 James Turnwald, Michiana Area Council of Governments
 Suzanne Weirick, Elkhart County Community Foundation

Report of Secretary

Turnwald confirmed that the required public notice was made for the meeting.

Minutes of the September 25, 2015 Meeting

There were no additions or corrections to the September 25, 2015 minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BYMCCOWN AND SECONDED
BY EMBERTON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER
25, 2015. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of Officers, Consultants and Staff

Treasurers Report:

Emberton prepared the Treasurer's Report and provided it to Bergl.

- Bergl reported the funds raised by the Steering Committee have been exhausted. A five thousand dollar pledge amount still needs to be collected from Kem Krest.
- The current bank account is under Connect, Inc. An account will be established for the Northern Indiana RDA; MACOG will work to identify a local banking institution.
- There is an outstanding amount of \$10,355 that needs to be paid to Big Idea.
- Two 2016 budget scenarios were discussed; one with State funding and one without State funding. The discussion was put on hold pending the outcome of the State funding awards.

Committee Reports

There were no reports.

Old Business

Regional Cities Initiative:

Emberton reported there have been two IEDC Strategic Review Committee meetings since the Regional Cities presentations were submitted. The top three regions, including Northern Indiana, were identified. Northern Indiana was also recognized as having the most return on investment associated with their development plan. A final decision on the applications that will be funded will be announced by the IEDC Board on December 15, 2015.

RCNI Project Management:

If awarded the funding, Emberton suggested that the next two steps the RDA should take are to develop a process for approving projects and for project management, and the dispersal of funds.

Graves stated the Northern Indiana RDA needs to hold a meeting once the funding results have been announced. The Board tentatively discussed meeting on December 16, 2015.

Emberton pointed out that there is a steering committee meeting on December 14, 2015.

It was suggested project applications be submitted directly to the RDA Board; once they establish a process, and that a meeting with the Northwest Indiana RDA Board be set up to discuss how their process works.

New Business

Economic Development Framework for the Region:

Graves discussed the upcoming Regional Cities of Northern Indiana Steering Committee meeting scheduled for November 23 at the Lerner Theater. The meeting will provide an update on the Regional Cities initiative and discuss the regions need to develop an economic development framework.

Emberton noted there will be a series of two meetings to keep the stakeholders informed; the first on November 23 and the second on December 14.

Project Updates:

Emberton provided some general project updates and briefly commented on the progress of some of the marquee projects in the Regional Cities plan.

Presentation:

Mary Jan Hedman provided a presentation on St. Joe Valley Metronet.

Other Items:

Northern Indiana RDA meetings will be held the 2nd Thursday of every other month starting in February 2016 (2/11, 4/14, 6/9, 8/11, 10/13, 12/8). Meetings will be held at 4:30 in the afternoon and the location will rotate around the cities in the region.

Adjournment

John Affleck-Graves adjourned the meeting.