

# COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Development & Planning (D&P)

**CHAIRPERSON:** Merri Berlage

**DATE/TIME:** September 24, 2014

**PRESENT:**

Merri Berlage

John O'Boyle

Robert Heurman

Steve Rutz

Ron Smith

RJ Winkelhake

Other Board members:

Others: Dan Reimer, Don Schiable, Mike Dittmar, Sharon Pepin, Randy Pepin, John Hay, Wayne Raisbeck, Lisa McCarthy, Andy Shaw and Rod Brandt.

1. **Citizens' Comments** – Merri read email from Ron Mapes concerning his thoughts pertaining to the current Enterprise Zone and Jo Daviess County,
2. **Unfinished Business**
  - a) **Update on Enterprise Zone.** – Merri reviewed a power point presentation from the Illinois Enterprise Zone Website which gave committee members a short history, and list of new criteria that is required to apply for an Enterprise Zone. It was noted that a Website will be open October 1<sup>st</sup> which will identify current data that can be used in applying for a zone, and will also answer questions concerning the data and criteria information. Those in attendance were encouraged to check out the website on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Website address – [www.enterpisezonesillinois.com](http://www.enterpisezonesillinois.com)
3. **New Business**
  - a) Discussion and possible action in regards to funding for application to an Enterprise Zone
    - i. Cost share equally or based on population/revenue  
**Motion was made by Steve Rutz to approve to send a letter to the incorporated communities in Jo Daviess County asking them if they would be interested in participating in the application process for an Enterprise Zone exclusively for Jo Daviess County. Second by John O'Boyle. Motion carried.**
  - b) Discussion and possible action on an intergovernmental agreement between Jo Daviess County and participating municipalities – **This item was held up until we find out which communities are interested in participating in the application process and have more in depth discussion concerning what needs to be in a possible intergovernmental agreement with advise from State's Attorney John Hay.**
  - c) Discussion and possible action on management of Enterprise Zone application process and lead agency. – **Motion that Jo Daviess County serve as the lead agency in the application process for an Enterprise Zone was made by RJ Winklehake, second by Ron Smith. Motion carried.**
  - d) Discussion and possible action associated with the review of Enterprise Zone bylaws from other enterprise zones in the region.
    - i. Organizational structure – **Copies of the Whiteside County Enterprise Zone by-laws were distributed to committee members for their review. It was noted that this is something that would need to be addressed down the road, and could be looked at closer when Zone application is accepted.**
  - e) Discussion and possible action regarding legal descriptions.
    - i. Engineering firms – **Committee felt this item would be addressed in the RFP and we could look into this better when we had a handle on the cost associated with the application.**
  - f) Discussion and possible action regarding a request from Pearl Valley Farm's to expand the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone 35 acres to facilitate a \$20 million, 30 employee expansion of their farm contingent upon the Stephenson County Board's approval at their Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 30, 2014. – **Motion to approve an Ordinance Amending the Boundaries of the Joint City of Freeport/County of Stephenson Certified Enterprise Zone for the purpose of including an additional 35 acres for Pearl Valley Farm. Motion made by RJ Winklehake, second by Robert Heurman. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to approve a Resolution to authorize an Amendment to the Intergovernmental agreement for the operation of an Enterprise Zone for the purpose of adding an additional 35 acres for Pearl Valley Farms. Motion made by Steve Rutz, second by Robert Heuerman. Motion carried.**

- 4. Other Business**
- 5. Citizens' Comments**
- 6. Board Member Concerns –**

Next meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 @ 7:00 pm.

**John O'Boyle made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm, seconded by Robert Heuerman and motion passed.**