

## MINUTES

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### Jo Daviess County CEDS Committee

Tuesday, October 2, 2007, 5:00 p.m.  
Highland College West, Elizabeth  
Conference Room

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Members Dave Jansen, Vince Hasken, Pat Keleher, Elaine Klippert, Doug Riedl

**ABSENT:** Bill Wolter, Helen Schamberger, Bridgette Stocks, Staff: Pat Leitzen-Fye

**GUESTS:** Teresa Wittenauer, Blackhawk Hills R,C &D; Kate Jennings, Senator Obama's office; Russ Simpson, Jo-Carroll Energy; Helen Kilgore, Village of Elizabeth;

**MEETING CONVENED:** 5:05 p.m. by Chairman Dave Jansen.

- I. Minutes of the August 7, 2007 meeting were approved as presented by unanimous vote on motion by Hasken, second by Klippert.
- II. Old Business:
  - a. BRE Survey: After some discussion, approval was made to utilize the Commonwealth Edison version for the 2008 BRE survey by unanimous vote on motion by Klippert, seconded by Hasken.
  - b. Brief discussion on the Economic Summit regarding the fee to charge, \$15.00 per attendee versus \$25.00 per attendee. No action was taken and a suggested charge of \$20.00 is to be presented to the Economic Development Director. The consensus is that the fee will be determined by total costs and business support.
  - c. Data base and 2008 Budget: Any work on the data base will be limited by available funds and time.
  - d. Greenways & Trails Plan: The committee is continuing to work on the RFP.
  - e. Passenger Rail: Discussion regarding various communities working on developing depots for passenger trains to stop.
  - f. Highway 20: Brief discussion regarding the status of Highway 20 and what funds may become available.
- III. New Business:
  - a. Russ Simpson, Jo-Carroll Energy's Vice-President of Economic Development and Member Services, was introduced by committee member Keleher. Mr. Simpson described Jo-Carroll's vision for his newly created position. A brief discussion centered around the intentions of constructing a 80 MW bio-mass power plant announced by Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. on September 18, 2007.
  - b. After discussion, support for the proposed Jo Daviess County resolution in support of the Rentech project was approved on a unanimous vote on a motion by Klippert, seconded by Hasken. A letter of support to Rentech from the CEDS committee was unanimously approved on a motion by Hasken, seconded by Riedl.

- c. Member roundtable:
  - i. Chairman Jansen read Helen Schamberger's report.
  - ii. Doug Riedl reported that the former McNett auto dealership in Stockton will be managed by the Barkau auto group and that the Vantage Town and Country will be closing its doors. Warren had another successful Pumpkin Parade and that the print shop continues to operate.
  - iii. Vince Hasken reported that the City of East Dubuque continues to work very hard on the TIF districts and on the new businesses they are trying to attract. A discussion regarding the extension of the Enterprise Zone to the Highway 20 Corridor entering East Dubuque followed. This discussion led to a unanimous vote for a CEDS committee recommendation in favor of such an extension be presented to the Enterprise Zone board on a motion by Hasken, seconded by Riedl.
  - iv. Village of Elizabeth President Helen Kilgore presented that there is interest in starting a couple of new businesses in the village and that the TIF district work is continuing. She also reported that the acquisition of the 140-acre property east of Elizabeth is on track.
  - v. Dave Jansen reported that the new Galena hospital is nearing completion and that an open house is scheduled for late November or early December.

IV. Kate Jennings introduced herself. She is the liaison from Senator Barack Obama's office for our area. She replaces Seamus Ahern.

V. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2007, 5:00 p.m. at Highland College West Campus in Elizabeth. Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Patrick Keleher