



**Accelerate Rural Indiana
Regional Development Authority
Development Board Meeting
Friday, April 14th, 2023
1:00 pm**

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The Development Board of the Accelerate Rural Indiana Regional Development Authority (Development Board) met on the above date and time at 314 W Washington St, Greensburg, Indiana 47240. Bryan Robbins called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m., welcomed members and guests to the first meeting of the Development Board, and provided a brief background on the formation ARI RDA.

ROLL CALL: Virgil Bremer, Bruce Everhart, Bryan Robbins, Andy Saner, and David Toll answered roll call. No members were absent.

REPORT OF SECRETARY/TREASURER ON GIVING NOTICE OF MEETING: Without an elected Secretary-Treasurer to report on giving proper notice of the meeting, Mason Gordon of HWC Engineering, the region's READI consultant, reported that proper notice of the public meeting was given in consultation with Indiana's Open Door Law and legal counsel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: None.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, CONSULTANTS, AND STAFF: Gordon provided a consultant report:

- **RDA Formation** – Gordon announced that all ARI RDA formation ordinances and the RDA Development Board Joint Agreements have been properly approved and signed.
- **Project Updates** – Gordon shared that 12 of the region's 17 READI projects have been granted formal approval in IEDC's Grants Management Tool; 4 subrecipient agreements have been executed with READI project subrecipients; \$550,560 of READI funds have been disbursed to READI project subrecipients; and \$14,250 of READI fund disbursements are currently pending IEDC and EY approval. Saner requested that additional information on each of the region's READI projects be sent to the Development Board.
- **Q1 IEDC Forum** – Gordon shared a brief summary of IEDC's Q1 READI forum held in Starlight, Indiana, on March 28th, 2023. Highlights of the forum included – an announcement by EY that no federal audits will occur at the regional level, IEDC will not be requesting that ARI combine with SE Indiana, READI 2.0 will feature a regional

visit in the Fall of 2023, and READI 2.0 funds are scheduled to be awarded at IEDC's Q4 Board Meeting. Bryan Robbins and Sarah Lamping also attended the Q1 forum and shared their key takeaways from the meeting. The next IEDC READI forum will be held June 22nd, 2023 in South Bend.

- **State of ARI Celebration** – Gordon invited the Development Board to the 'State of the ARI Region Celebration' event planned for May 4th, 2023, at the Blessing's Opera House in Shelbyville. Gordon shared several planning details with the Development Board.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Oath of Office** – Each member of the Development Board signed an Oath of Office per IC 5-4-1.
- **ARI RDA Bylaws** – Everhart moved to adopt the Accelerate Rural Indiana Regional Development Authority Bylaws. Bremer seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **Election of Development Board Officers** – Robbins opened the floor for Development Board officer slate nominations. Saner nominated Bryan Robbins as Chair. Bremer seconded the nomination. Toll nominated Andy Saner as Vice Chair. Bremer seconded the nomination. Toll nominated Bruce Everhart as Secretary-Treasurer. Bremer seconded the nomination. Saner moved to elect the slate of Development Board officers as nominated. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **Resolution 2023-01: A Resolution to Authorize the City of Batesville to Join the Accelerate Rural Indiana Regional Development Authority** – Toll moved to approve Resolution 2023-01. Bremer seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **Resolution 2023-02: A Resolution to Adopt a Written Policy for Development Board Member Electronic Meeting Participation** – Everhart moved to approve Resolution 2023-02. Bremer seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **ARI READI Steering Committee** – Bremer moved to form the ARI READI Steering Committee and appoint the following representatives to serve on the committee: Mike Bettice, Sarah Lamping, John Irrgang, Josh Marsh, Mark Koors, Deanna Burkart, Bryan Robbins, Tami Wenning, Tom DeBaun, Don Parker, Brian Asher, Mike Pavey, Ron Jarman, John McCane, and Kyle Gardner. Saner seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **Request for Proposals** – Everhart moved to publish a Request for Proposals seeking READI and RDA program administration professional services. Toll seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.

- **Development Fund Account** – Bremer moved to investigate opening a development fund account at a local bank. Toll seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.
- **Legal Counsel** – Adam Steuerwald of Barnes & Thornburg, LLP presented an engagement letter for legal services for the Development Board’s consideration. The Development Board determined further information about READI procurement requirements for legal counsel professional services is needed prior to entering into an agreement.
- **Meeting Schedule** – Saner moved to hold regular Development Board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 1pm at Greensburg’s City Hall thru the conclusion of 2023. Toll seconded the motion. Motion was adopted unanimously.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE:

- **IEDA Childcare Grant** – Robbins announced that the Indiana Economic Development Association is seeking applicants for a \$40,000 childcare planning grant sponsored by Duke Energy. Development Board members expressed interest in applying for the grant. It was brought to the Development Board’s attention that several ARI RDA members are pursuing the grant as individual applicants. Robbins will ask IEDA for guidance on the best approach for the region.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before the Development Board. Everhart moved to adjourn. Bremer seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.



Bruce Everhart, Secretary-Treasurer