



**Accelerate Rural Indiana
Regional Development Authority
Development Board Meeting
Friday, May 12th, 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.

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: Everhart reported that proper notice of the meeting had been given in consultation with Indiana's Open Door Law and legal counsel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes from the April 14th, 2023 meeting of the Development Board were presented. Toll moved to approve the minutes as presented. Bremer seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, CONSULTANTS, AND STAFF: Mason Gordon provided a consultant report on behalf of HWC Engineering:

- **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 \$260,683 of READI fund disbursements are currently pending IEDC and EY approval. Gordon announced that Batesville's Skate Park held a ribbon cutting in April, making it the region's second project to be completed. Gordon stressed the importance of the region meeting IEDC's June 30th, 2023 deadline for all projects to be approved in the IEDC Grant's Management Tool. Gordon will follow-up with all projects which are pending approval.
- **'State of ARI Celebration' Event** – Gordon thanked everyone for attending the inaugural 'State of ARI Celebration' event at the Blessing's Opera House in Shelbyville

on May 4th. Gordon shared that over 50 state and regional stakeholders attended the event, including three of the region's members of the Indiana General Assembly. Gordon shared a special 'thank you' to Debra Tracy (Shelby County Development Corporation) and Kristen Williams (City of Greensburg) for their help coordinating the event.

- **Upcoming Events** – Gordon announced two upcoming events – READI Day at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 17th and the Q2 READI Forum in South Bend on June 22nd. Gordon asked for volunteers to represent the region at the two events and several volunteered. Gordon will follow-up with IEDC regarding RSVP's for the events.
- **READI 2.0** – Gordon announced that \$500 million of READI 2.0 funding was included in HEA 1001, the 2023 Indiana State Budget signed by Governor Holcomb. Gordon shared several updates on READI 2.0-related provisions included in the approved budget and encouraged the Development Board to begin strategizing for READI 2.0. The Development Board asked Gordon to schedule a ARI READI Steering Committee meeting to advise the Development Board on a READI 2.0 strategy.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Resolution 2023-02** – Gordon shared that Resolution 2023-02 was updated to include 'Chair' instead of 'President,' as requested at the April 2023 Development Board meeting. Development Board members signed the updated resolution.
- **READI & RDA Program Administration Request for Proposals** – Robbins shared that the READI & RDA Program Administration RFP was sent to 8 firms and the Development Board received one proposal (HWC Engineering) by the deadline. Gordon presented HWC's proposal to the Development Board. Everhart moved to accept HWC's proposal. Saner seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.
- **Development Fund Bank Account Opening** – Everhart shared a list of required information to open a Development Fund bank account with First Financial Bank, including an IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN). Gordon shared a draft EIN application with the Development Board and asked for feedback. No changes to the EIN application were requested. The Development Board asked Gordon to submit the EIN application as presented. Everhart moved to open a Development Fund bank account with First Financial Bank. Saner seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.
- **Engagement with Legal Counsel** – Gordon shared with the Development Board that EY recommended seeking a second proposal for legal counsel to abide by READI procurement requirements. Saner recommended approaching another Indianapolis-based firm for a proposal, given the need for RDA experience. Toll moved to seek a second proposal legal counsel. Saner seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. The Development Board asked Gordon to seek a second proposal.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **READI Fiscal Agent Discussion with DCCF** – The Development Board discussed the transition of READI Fiscal Agent responsibilities with Tami Wenning, Executive Director of the Decatur County Community Foundation and current ARI READI Fiscal Agent. Wenning requested the Development Board present a written letter to the DCCF Board articulating the RDA’s intention to assume the role as ARI’s READI Fiscal Agent and requesting a reimbursement of \$60,000 of DCCF’s READI administrative advance. The Development Board asked Gordon to draft the letter.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE:

- **Barnes and Thornburg Invoice** – Robbins presented the Development Board with an invoice from Barnes and Thornburg for RDA-related legal counsel from Adam Steuerwald. Bremer moved to allow Wenning to pay the invoice. Toll seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before the Development Board. Toll moved to adjourn. Bremer seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.



Bruce Everhart, Secretary-Treasurer