

Richland Economic Development Board

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 29, 2021 @ 1:15 p.m.
Richland Center City Council Chambers
450 South Main St.

“Fostering a community of opportunity, success and excellence”

1. Call to order, quorum, meeting properly noticed.
 - Yes – Properly Noticed – Derek K.
 - Members in attendance – Mike B., Marty B., Todd C., Eric K., Bruce R., Clint L., Jasen G.,
 - Members absent - Bruce K., Michael S.

2. Review and approve minutes.
 - Motion** – Marty B.
 - Second** – Todd C.
 - Discussion** - none
 - Vote** - Unanimous

3. EDD report and actions.
 - *Broadband – Internet Expansion* - On March 18th, 2021 - \$1.859 Million in broadband expansion in Richland County was announced – Entities that were awarded were discussed.

 - *USEDA - County Grant Programs in partnership with Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission* – A report on various locations throughout Richland County receiving comprehensive planning support.

 - *County CDBG Close Project – \$1.2million* – We received Official Award Letter for both projects - Richland Auditorium – Accessibility Project and Lone Rock – Village Center Park.

 - *City and Tourism Website / Marketing* - This pertains to marketing our City and County, attracting people, and delivering good governmental service. Collaboration with Marty Richards and Derek Kalish and various vendors has been taking place to move this process forward. City will likely act as a pilot program and will hopefully allow the county to move through a similar process on a much shorter time frame.

 - *Housing* – Includes: Housing Think Tank Group & Report, Kleinsasser – Panorama, the Grainger lots that were donated to the city, the successful TIF Affordable Housing amendments and resolution to extend another TIF, and the City / County Housing program partnership in regard to County Tax Deed Properties in the City

 - *Stori Field Discussion* - Regarding the bridge and field.

- *Redevelopment Authority* - Regarding removal of the old REC Building and site preparation for new development. Brownfield issues being worked through.
- *Businesses for sale* – Including the Bowling Alley, the Golf Course, and BMO Bank.
- *Collaboration with Richland Hospital in regard to their future relocation plans.*
- *Weber Drycleaner Building* – Further research and process development for next steps to deal with contamination.
- *Richland County Housing Authority* - Open Project – Need additional work in the process to bring old funds back into the county under a new program.
- *SW Small Business Development Center* – Live morning show program with WRCO which showcased Sue Larson success story as well as Kristi Smith who is a consultant with SBDC. Continued collaboration with people from Richland County regarding their entrepreneurial ideas.
- *Meeting scheduled with Richland County Townships* - Richard Wastlick extended an invitation to RED Director to present on Wednesday, March 31st, 2021.
- *Leased Employee from Workforce Development for RED* - Things should be set – need to find a person
- *Confidential Efforts*
- *Active Committees, Boards, Groups* - Prosperity Southwest Board Meetings (Board Member), Child Care Committee and County Emergency Operations Center (*COVID*)

4. Consider moving into closed session under Section 19.85 (1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; Regarding the RED Housing Think-tank report pertaining to property considerations and housing development.

Motion – Todd C.

Second - Marty

Discussion -

Vote - Unanimous

5. Closed Session

6. Reconvene into open session

Motion – Todd C.

Second – Marty B.

Discussion -

Vote - Unanimous

7. Motion to submit the RED Board - Housing Think-tank recommendations (reviewed in closed session) to City of Richland Center – Closed Session for their consideration.

Motion – Marty B.
Second – Todd C.
Discussion -
Vote - Unanimous

8. RED Vision – Not Discussed

9. Strategic Planning – Not Discussed

10. Other Business – Non Discussed

11. Next meeting Monday, May 10, 2021 at 1:15 p.m.

12. Adjourn – 3pm

Motion - Marty
Second - Todd
Discussion -
Vote - Unanimous

Minutes by – Jasen Glasbrenner – Director, Richland Economic Development