

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

October 22, 2009

Pike County Government Center

Waverly, Ohio

Chairman: *Bob Proud*

Vice-Chairman: *Roger Rhonemus*

Treasurer: *Doug Corcoran*

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman, called the meeting to order and stated that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone to the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio. Mr. Proud then asked, Justin Fallon, Gallia County Commissioner, to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Those in attendance were as follows:

Executive Committee Members:

Lonnie Best, Proxy for Les Boggs, Lawrence County Commissioner

Russ Brewer, Adams County Chamber of Commerce

Eugene Collins, Scioto County Minority Representative

Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner

Jack DeWeese, Fayette County Commissioner

Justin Fallon, Gallia County Commissioner

Paul Harrison, Gallia County Member-at-Large

Gary Heaton, Highland County Commissioner

Ken Morrison, Clermont County Member at Large

Margery Paeltz, Brown County Commissioner

Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner

Roger Rhonemus, Adams County Commissioner

Charles Stevens, Highland County Private Sector Representative

Thomas White, Ross County Private Sector Representative

Staff:

John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director

Rebecca Banchy-McIlwain, OVRDC Finance Director

Sherrie Lanier, OVRDC Development Director

Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Economic Development Coordinator

Sharon Clark, OVRDC Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Nick Gatz, Representative for Senator Voinovich's Office

Fred River, ODOT District 9

Lynn Stevens, USDA Rural Development

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Proud stated that the draft of the September 24, 2009 Executive Committee meeting minutes was mailed to members, along with the meeting notice. He asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. Mr. Proud then asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY PAUL HARRISON AND SECONDED BY KEN MORRISON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Proud took a moment to welcome Nick Gatz, representative from Senator Voinovich's Office.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Proud advised OVRDC Treasurer, Doug Corcoran was not available to attend the meeting and introduced Rebecca Banchy-McIlwain, OVRDC Finance Director who presented the financial report for Doug Corcoran, OVRDC Treasurer. Mrs. McIlwain referred to Tab #3 and the August 31, 2009 Balance Sheet which reflected the total assets of \$586,249.01; total liabilities of \$33,654.70 and total equities of \$552,594.31 and a balance of \$0.00. Mr. Proud asked for a motion to adopt the Finance Report as presented.

MOTION WAS MADE BY CHARLES STEVENS AND SECONDED BY KEN MORRISON TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Proud advised, since several voting members had to leave early, the agenda items from "New Business" would be moved up since a voting quorum was needed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of CEDS Draft Resolution #2009/10-07

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6a, the Draft Resolution #2009/10-07 authorizing OVRDC to submit the 2009 Comprehensive Development Strategy (CEDS) to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration for review and approval. Mr. Hemmings asked for a motion to approve the CEDS Resolution.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KEN MORRISON AND SECONDED BY EUGENE COLLINS TO APPROVE THE CEDS RESOLUTION WHICH AUTHORIZES SUBMISSION OF THE 2009 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (COPY OF RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

b. EDA/EDD Planning Application Draft Resolution #2009/10-08

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6b, the Draft Resolution #2009/10-08 authorizing OVRDC to submit a three-year EDA planning grant application for approval for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012. Mr. Hemmings requested a motion to adopt Draft Resolution #2009/10-08.

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARY HEATON AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO APPROVE THE CHAIRMAN OF OVRDC TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE THREE YEAR EDA PLANNING GRANT FOR 2010-2012, ALONG WITH ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR THE FEDERAL AMOUNT OF \$194,451 TO BE MATCHED WITH NON-FEDERAL CASH AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,337. THE MOTION CARRIED. (COPY OF RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

c. ARC/LDD Application, Draft Resolution #2009/10-09

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6c, the Draft Resolution #2009/10-09 authorizing OVRDC to submit its ARC Work Program application for approval for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Mr. Hemmings requested a motion to adopt Draft Resolution #2009/10-09.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2009/10-09 AUTHORIZING JOHN HEMMINGS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR FEDERAL FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$213,000 TO BE MATCHED BY A MINIMUM OF 25 PERCENT IN NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES (\$71,000). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JUSTIN FALLON AND WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (COPY OF RESOLUTION IS ATTACHED)

d. EDA/RLF Certification, Draft Resolution #2009/10-10

Rebecca Banchy-McIlwain, OVRDC Finance Director stated the EDA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Annual Certification Resolution was included for review and approval as Tab #6d and requested a motion to adopt Draft Resolution #2009/10-10.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RUSS BREWER TO ADOPT THE EDA RLF ANNUAL CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION #2009/10-10 AS PRESENTED. PAUL HARRISON SECONDED AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (COPY OF RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

e. Livable Communities Initiative

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6e and a news release from NADO regarding legislation recently introduced by Senator Dodd authorizing the administration's proposed sustainable communities initiative the "Livable Communities Initiative". If approved the bill establishes a new Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities within the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer and oversee local and regional sustainable development efforts. The two new proposed competitive grant programs are:

- Comprehensive Planning Grants would be used to create long-term regional plans integrating transportation, housing, land use and economic development. Funds may be used to develop goals and concrete strategies for carrying out regional plans. Planning grants may also be used to help local governments make necessary changes to zoning ordinances and other codes to facilitate sustainable development. Local governments must work with a metropolitan planning organization, rural planning organization or regional council to be eligible for Comprehensive Planning Grants.
- Sustainability Challenge Grants to assist communities in carrying out sustainable development projects outlined in their comprehensive regional plans. Eligible activities include: investment in transit-oriented development, affordable housing, public

transportation infrastructure and facilities, pedestrian and bicycle thoroughfares, redevelopment of Brownfield and projects to spur economic development.

Mr. Hemmings stated that this program is projected to receive \$150 million in the FY 2010 budget and should be an opportunity that OVRDC can take the lead on in the region.

f. County Permissive Sales and Use Tax Authority

Mr. Hemmings advised he was approached by one of OVRDC's member counties requesting OVRDC to send a letter encouraging the Ohio General Assembly and Governor to support and pass legislation giving each county the authority to increase their local permissive sales and use tax rate. After discussion it was determined that OVRDC remain neutral regarding this issue.

g. American Centrifuge Plant Issues

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6g regarding two recent US Department of Energy (DOE) decisions related to the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) American Centrifuge Plant at Piketon. DOE originally denied USEC a \$2 billion loan guarantee to finance a uranium-enrichment plant in southern Ohio but will now review the loan guarantee application again in six months. In addition, the DOE has recently advised that it no longer expects to give \$30 million for demonstration work at the enrichment plant. Mr. Hemmings advised the Pike County Commissioners were in Washington DC to meet with officials regarding the negative impact these decisions are having on Pike County as well as Scioto, Ross and Jackson counties. Mr. Hemmings asked the committee for authorization of OVRDC to work with the four counties and send letters in support of the four county's position on these issues.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL HARRISON AND SECONDED BY JUSTIN FALLON TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SEND LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF THE FOUR COUNTY'S POSITION ON THE TWO RECENT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) DECISIONS. THE MOTION CARRIED.

h. AdHoc Health Insurance/Personnel Committee Recommendations (Executive Session)

Mr. Proud asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the report of the AdHoc Health Insurance/Personnel Committee Meeting which was held at 11:00 am at the OVRDC Office on October 22, 2009.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KEN MORRISON AND SECONDED BY PAUL HARRISON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The meeting reconvened at 2:30 pm. Mr. Proud asked for a motion to adopt the recommendation made by the AdHoc Health Insurance/Personnel Committee regarding insurance coverage.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL HARRISON AND SECONDED BY CHARLES STEVENS TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADHOC HEALTH INSURANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WHICH MET OCTOBER 22, 2009. THE MOTION CARRIED.

NOTE: The AdHoc Health Insurance/Personnel Committee recommendation was as follows:

1. Continue the Major Medical Insurance Opt-out Plan but change the payment to \$1,000 for all circumstances of dependent opt-out;

2. Continue Max 105 Plan;
3. Change Medical Health Insurance provider to Anthem/Blue Cross/Blue Shield and allow the Executive Director and Finance Director the ability to decide whether a \$1,000 deductible plan and 10% premium share by employees or a \$2,000 deductible plan and a 5% premium share by employees was the best for OVRDC;
4. Continue dental and vision insurance with Guardian;
5. Allow employees to waive their own coverage for Medical Health Insurance, or Dental/Vision insurance, or both;
6. Allow employees to waive coverage for their dependents for Medical Health Insurance, or Dental/Vision insurance, or both.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #4 and highlighted one item:

On September 18, 2009, Sherrie Lanier and he met with Karen Fabiano from ODOD's Office of Housing and Community Partnership (OHCP) at the OVRDC office. She monitored the Village of Highland and Village of Mowrystown CDBG Water & Sewer project files and there were no findings for either project.

Mr. Hemmings referred to a News Release in the Director's Report advising Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Director of the Ohio Department of Development, and Mark Shanahan, energy advisor to Governor Ted Strickland, announced that the Ohio Department of Development's Ohio Energy Office is accepting applications for \$15 million in funding available through Ohio's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program for eligible county and city governments. Eligible activities include energy efficiency retrofits and installation of distributed energy technologies in the residential, commercial, industrial, government or academic sectors, higher efficient lighting for traffic signals and street lights, reduction and capture of methane or greenhouse gases, and installation of renewable energy technologies on government buildings. Applicants must submit a one-page summary by November 25, 2009 and complete proposals are due November 30, 2009.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. ARC/EDA Project Status

Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Economic Development Coordinator referred to Tab #5a and advised all projects for 2009 have been submitted to GOA and all projects have been approved.

b. ARC/EDA 2010 Project Status

Mrs. Throckmorton referred to Tab #5b, which contained the FY 2010 Priority Project Package She advised OVRDC representatives met with the Governor's Office of Appalachia staff and submitted an initial list of potential FY2010 projects. She advised there may be additional funds available and additional projects will be added to the list if such funds become available.

c. ARC/EDA Appropriations Update

Mr. Hemmings advised that it is very likely that ARC will be receiving \$76 million non-highway funds in FY 2010 since the House and Senate Conference Committee approved that amount and it is the same as the Obama administration's budget request for FY 2010. He stated he had no new news about EDA appropriations for FY 2010.

d. FY 2009 HUD RHED Application Update

Mr. Hemmings advised the Executive Committee that OVRDC had applied for a \$150,000, three year HUD RHED grant and he was recently notified we were not selected. He advised no applicants in Ohio were selected.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Proud referred to the October Announcement Section and advised the ARC Fall Conference will be held) October 26-28 at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

8. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Proud advised the next Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for 1:30 pm, Thursday, November 19, 2009 at the Pike County Government Center.

9. ADJOURN AND INKIND

There being no other business, Mr. Proud asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ROGER RHONEMUS AND SECONDED BY KEN MORRISON TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 22, 2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Bob Proud, Chairman

Attachments: Resolution #2009/10-07
Resolution #2009/10-08
Resolution #2009/10-09
Resolution #2009/10-10