

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Tuesday, February 28, 2023
Hybrid – Zoom/In-person
8:00 am

Meeting Minutes

Present: Patti Putnam, Dale Williamson, Bob Kendall, Rick Bibens, Todd Priestley,
Bob Flint, Heather Hartford, Amanda Sidler, and Taylor Drinker

Absent: Doug Gurney, Kristi Morris, Nate Cobb

- 1) **Review of minutes for 2/28/23:** Rick Bibens made a motion to accept the January 24 minutes as written, seconded by Dale Williamson. So moved.
- 2) **Review of January Financials:** Bob Kendall made a motion to accept the January financials, seconded by Rick Bibens. So moved. Bob reported that Doug had signed the form for the 990 submission. Bob also stated the Program Audit had been completed for the CARES Act RLF and had no findings. He said this had been submitted to EDA.
- 3) **Executive Director's Report:** Covered throughout the meeting.
- 4) **Old Business:**
 - a. **J & L 1 Update:**
 1. **Demo Project:** Bob said that we were waiting for Stone Environmental to complete the updates to the CAP, for submission to DEC. He said that the team had spoken to DEC last week and needed to plan for contingencies for remaining work.
 2. **Clinton Street Water Project:** Bob told the Board that the town would be doing a major upgrade to the water system over the next couple of years. The first segment will begin at the water treatment plant and move down Clinton Street, passing by J & L Plant 1. Bob said that the trees at J&L 1 would be taken down as part of the project. Bob said that he and Heather would be part of the project team meetings. This will be getting underway in early spring.
 - b. **Jones Center Update:** Heather told the Board that All Seasons Construction had been retained to complete the Mamava bathroom project in their main office area. She said that HB Energy had been in, as well as Vermont Sprinkler. This project should be finished in March.
 - c. **Bryants Update:** Heather said that outside security cameras had been installed at the south end of the building and the next set would be installed at the north end and out back. She also told the Board that Melanson Roofing had been there to check on the north end where water has been creeping in. Due to the freeze they will not be able to fix the issue until spring. Heather said that we would need to revisit the roof discussion in the near future, for potential replacement.

- d. WIC Property Management: Heather stated that all was going well at the property. She said that WIC was working on a potential Better Places project to construct pickleball courts in the parking area of the River Street Commerce Park.
- e. Working Communities Challenge: Amanda gave a presentation on the data that had been gleaned from the Employee Research Study surveys. The report showed that transportation and childcare are two of the largest barriers that are encountered.
- f. Springfield Area RLF: Bob said that the Program Audit report was filed with EDA and there were no findings. He also said that there were funds that had been paid back to the CARES Act RLF, which could be loaned out under the same terms/conditions, for businesses experiencing an impact resulting from the pandemic.
- g. Park Street/BRIC Updates: Bob told the Board that the Governor will be announcing the first round of CRRP grant recipients in the next few weeks and that we understand we will be on that list. At this point, Bob said they were going through the procurement process with MARC and that we also still working on potential funding options for replacing the HVAC system for the building.

5) **Other Business:**

- a. Legislative Update: Bob told the Board that the RDCs were still following H-10 which is the VEGI program and S-56, the Childcare Bill. He reminded the Board about the Legislative Forum on 3/13 at RVTC.
- b. Board Member Status: Bob said that Gene Birmingham had reconsidered and would remain on the SRDC Board.

6) **Executive Session:** Bob Kendall made a motion at 8:37 am to go into Executive Session, seconded by Todd Priestley. So moved.

A motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:07 am was made by Rick Bibens, seconded by Bob Kendall. So moved.

7) **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 am.

Next Meeting – March 28, 2023