

Pittsfield Economic Development Authority

Board Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2015

In attendance were the following Board Members: Mick Callahan, Chairman, Larry Tallman, Pam Green, Doug Crane, Patrick Reuss, Paul Dalton, Christina Barrett, and Mike Matthews. Also in attendance were Cory Thurston, Executive Director, Beth Goodman, Legal Counsel, Doug Clark, City of Pittsfield, Vincent Viscuso, Adelson Auditor, Tony Dobrowolski, Berkshire Eagle, Andy McKeever, IBerkshire, Dave Cachet, PCTV.

I. Administration

Call to Order – Chairman Mick Callahan called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. He reminded everyone that the meeting was being video and audio recorded.

Approval of February 18, 2015 minutes – **There was a motion to approve the minutes of February 18, 2015, seconded and carried.**

II. Committee Reports

Finance

The board would like to see the budget for 2015 broken down by an Operational Budget and a Project Budget.

Greylock Credit Union has dropped DIF coverage. Deposits are now fully collateralized. Berkshire Bank is working on collateralizing funds PEDAs currently has with them.

2014 Audit – The Audit was completed in one day. Auditors are here to review report with the board.

Administrative - The Finance Committee voted to approve a \$1,500 stipend for the clerk. **Mike Matthews made a motion to accept the approval of \$1,500 stipend for the clerk; Christina Barrett seconded and was passed unanimously.**

III. 2014 Audit Presentation

Vincent Viscuso presented the Board Members with the findings from the audit. He reported a clean audit.

Mike Matthews made a motion to accept the Audit Report as presented; Paul Dalton seconded and was passed unanimously.

IV. Committee Reports

Nominating

Nominating chair Patrick Reuss, proposed the reelection of the following slate of Officers to serve a one year term effective on May 1, 2015:

Chairman	Mick Callahan
Vice Chairman	Christina Barrett
Chief Financial Officer	Mike Matthews
Secretary	George Whaling

Seconded by Pam Green . Motion passed unanimously.

Marketing

Christina showed the newly completed video for the WSBP. The new slogan is “Building on Innovation”.

The new print ads have a more visible approach by adding a different color and adding it to the corner.

Adds have been placed in Business West and would like to place adds visible to the Capital district.

Social Media is focusing on using “key words” that will draw people to our site.

Design Review

Larry Tallman presented to the Board Members the overview of the Design Review Committee of the BIC.

V. Executive Directors Report

Woodlawn Avenue Bridge – Work on the bridge is going to begin next week. Northern Construction has an aggressive plan to get it done by year end.

Berkshire Innovation Center – the City Council approved the funding for the new Taconic High School which will be an asset to the BIC. This will help educate young people that will fit into what the BIC is trying to do.

Berkshire Community College received a \$500,000 grant from MLSC for training and education in the Life Science field.

The hope is to start construction late summer or early fall.

NPDES Draft Permit – The draft permit is very stringent. The Board will meet to discuss options. The Board needs to file all comments by June 6, 2015. A public hearing is being held on May 19, 2015

VI. Other Business

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2015.

VII. Adjournment

Mick Callahan made a motion to adjourn at 9:00, seconded and carried.