WHITLEY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT January 5, 2016

The Whitley County Redevelopment Commission met Tuesday, January 5, 2016 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Redevelopment members in attendance were Chairman James Argerbright, Frank Kessler, Bill Overdeer, Mike Schrader, and George Schrumpf. EDC President Jon Myers was in attendance along with the EDC Intern Jacob Archambault. Guests included: Derek Frederickson and Jeff Weaver from Engineering Resources. The minutes were recorded by Auditor Jana Schinbeckler.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman JArgerbright at 7:00 am.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES & CLAIMS: The minutes for the December 8, 2015 meeting were presented for review. FKessler motioned the December 8, 2015 minutes be approved as presented; MSchrader seconded the motion; motion passed with all in favor.

UPDATE ON 600 EAST PROJECT: Redevelopment Attorney Andy Boxberger and Engineering Resources are getting things prepared to get bids by January 19, 2016. It will be a three to four week bid period and the bid will be awarded this spring. **BOverdeer made a motion for publication of bids; MSchrader seconded the motion; motion passed with all in favor.**

UPDATE ON RAIL CONNECT PARK ASSOCIATION: FKessler gave an update on the Rail Connect Park Association. The association met on December 22, 2015 and the association was formed with FKessler being the President of the Association. The Association will now take over the mowing at Rail Connect Park and the Northeastern REMC bill for Rail Connect Park.

UPDATE ON RAIL CONNECT SPEC BUILDING: The Rail Connect Spec Building at this time has no one committed to using the building. EDC President Jon Myers is working with Joe D'Italia to come up with ideas to possibly increase chances of receiving an offer. He would like to do some additional work to the building and it would be around \$1,000,000 worth of changes. Joe D'Italia will be coming to the next meeting to present to the Commission.

NEW PROJECT PROPOSAL WCEDC PROJECT 2016-1: Project 2016-1 is in regard to a company that was considering moving their operations to a new location they have identified in Allen County. The company needs a larger location to expand its operations and add new employees. Jon has suggested that he work to identify a building for them in Whitley County. There was not a building in Whitley County that suited their needs but they would possibly be interested in building a new facility. Jon identified a parcel that was within the TIF district and they have agreed on a preliminary price with the seller. The site still needs additional preparation and some infrastructure development which would cost around \$50,000. Jon has not made a commitments at this time but would like the Commission to consider acquiring the property for \$125,000 and completing the necessary preparation work and then sell the improved lot to the company. The company will build a new facility and request a ten year tax abatement. After discussion, the Redevelopment Commission came to a consensus to allow Jon to move forward with the project.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The Redevelopment Commission discussed their board appointments for 2016. Boverdeer motioned that the existing officers stay the same, JArgerbright as Chairman and MSchrader as the Secretary; GShrumpf seconded the motion; motion passed with all in favor.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: In regard to the new high school, JWestern reported that there will be three community meeting sessions to get different opinions and ideas for the school. The Commission also reviewed their meeting schedule for 2016. **GSchrumpf made a motion to approve the 2016 Meeting Schedule; BOverdeer seconded the motion; motion passed with all in favor.**

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 am.

Whitley County Redevelopment Commission

James Argerbright, Chairman

Michael D. Schrader, Secretary

Attest:

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor