### KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, January 14, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, January 14, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, Larry Teghtmeyer, and Ron Yeiter. Also present for the meeting was County Administrator, Ron Robinson and County Auditor, Marsha McSherry.

### In the Matter of Swearing in of the Commission:

County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, swore in the following members of the Redevelopment Commission for 2010: Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Larry Teghtmeyer, Bill Warren and Ron Yeiter.

### In the Matter of Reorganization of Officers:

President Max Courtney opened the floor for nomination of officers. It was the consensus of the members that County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, would serve as recording secretary for the Redevelopment Commission.

Motion: Second: Bill Warren

Larry Teghtmeyer

Abstain: 0

Ayes: Motion Carried

Motion: Bruce Woodward

Larry Teghtmeyer Second: Abstain: 0 4 Ayes:

Motion Carried

To: Nominate Henry DeJulia as President; Max Courtney as Vice-President; and Bruce Woodward as Secretary of the Redevelopment Commission.

To: Nominate Bill Warren as Treasurer of

the Redevelopment Commission.

Bill Warren thanked Max Courtney for his hard work and dedication as President of the Redevelopment Commission for the past three (3) years.

President Max Courtney called the meeting to order and the November, 2009 minutes were approved as presented.

#### In Old Business:

### In the Matter of Meeting with Industry Executives:

Max Courtney stated Henry DeJulia had suggested at a previous meeting the idea of having a breakfast/lunch meeting with executives from the companies in the County. As DeJulia was absent, it was the consensus of the members to table the discussion until the February, 2010 meeting.

### In the Matter of Review of Joint Redevelopment Meeting:

Max Courtney asked the members for their thoughts and/or comments on the Joint Redevelopment meeting held on January 6, 2010.

In the Matter of Review of Joint Redevelopment Meeting Continued:

President Bruce Woodward noted the importance of a full-time economic development director.

Bill Warren felt two (2) key items were garnered from the joint meeting: the need for a full-time economic development director and KDI should be an "umbrella" for the economic development position. Warren expressed concern with funding of the director position noting public and private funding was mentioned. Warren questioned the expected salary for an economic director, where the funding would come from and also where to search for a director.

Woodward noted KDI has discussed the need for an economic director for many years, but have not acted on it. Woodward stated the County should "spear-head" the director idea/position as opposed to allowing KDI and their board of directors to make the decision.

Larry Teghtmeyer questioned whether the County Commissioners concur on the creation of an economic development director position. County Administrator, Ron Robinson, responded the Commissioners are ready to discuss the possibility of an economic director position. Robinson further stated the use of professional websites is best for finding candidates for this type of position.

Ron Yeiter expressed the importance of involving the municipalities within the County, including the City of Warsaw, in the economic development of the County.

Warren questioned if the Commissioners agreed to hire a director whether the municipalities would need to be contacted regarding possible financial support to help fund the director position. Robinson was unsure whether the smaller communities would be able to contribute financially, although Robinson agreed the smaller communities should be involved and agree on the economic plan. Warren noted the amounts paid by the towns and cities into KDI: Warsaw, \$5,000; Milford, \$1,200; Pierceton, \$800; North Webster, \$750; Winona Lake, \$750; Silver Lake, \$500; and Leesburg, \$172.

Courtney expressed concern with the effectiveness that KDI, as well as the County has had in getting the smaller communities involved and making them see the importance of an economic plan. Courtney also noted the importance of having all the communities in agreement with the plan.

Courtney then stated he has been asked to be the President of KDI with the election on January 27 2010. Courtney suggested devising a three (3) year plan that the County would fund. Courtney then stated a combination of the two (2) following entities is needed to form an economic plan: Redevelopment Commission since it is set-up through the State of Indiana and KDI since it is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization if private funds were to be used. Courtney stated the funding for the economic director position should come from EDIT monies.

In the Matter of Review of Joint Redevelopment Meeting Continued:

Teghtmeyer expressed concern with moving forward before speaking with County Commissioners. Courtney concurred that meeting with the Commissioners to obtain some direction should be first.

Warren felt strongly that all communities within the County need to be involved in the economic plan. Robinson noted the smaller communities may not have adequate funding to contribute to the economic plan. Courtney then posed the question whether economic development is a luxury or an investment in the communities within the County.

Teghtmeyer suggested inviting the Commissioners to the February, 2010 meeting. Robinson suggested an executive meeting with the Commissioners as there would be discussion on personnel issues, i.e. hiring an economic development director.

Warren questioned what amount the County pays into KDI. County Auditor, Marsha McSherry responded the County provides support in the amount of \$29,925.00 into KDI.

Courtney asked for further comments on the Joint Redevelopment meeting. Woodward stated all the groups agreed there is a need for a county-wide economic plan. Woodward expressed concern with the County relying too much on one (1) industry for growth, noting working on diversification would be beneficial to the County as a whole.

Courtney noted that all at the meeting concurred that the County must work with BioCrossroads and OrthoWorx to capitalize on the seven (7) initiatives: Branding and Awareness; Community Enhancement; Education; Talent and Workforce Development; Transportation and Logistics; Industry/Technical Support Enterprises; and College and Research University Engagement.

Courtney then questioned Ron Yeiter regarding the recent report on Warsaw Community High School's declining graduation rates. Yeiter responded he has spoken with WCHS' principal and there is concern in how the rates are calculated especially with the advance curriculum provided by WCHS. Yeiter stated the administration is always concerned with the graduation rates of its students and is working to improve that percentage.

Warren questioned whether "merit pay" is being discussed in the WCS system. Yeiter noted "merit pay" has been discussed for years but the teachers and the ISTA (Indiana State Teachers Association) are not in favor of that change.

Robinson requested clarification of an executive session between the Redevelopment Commission and the County Commissioners.

Discussion continued regarding the involvement of all communities.

In the Matter of Review of Joint Redevelopment Meeting Continued:

Yeiter questioned whether State or Federal grant funding is available. Robinson stated he received notice there may be additional stimulus monies available in the future. Robinson also noted the importance of MaCog's help in locating and obtaining funding.

Woodward questioned when the bond for the jail will be paid, making the EDIT funds available for use. McSherry responded the bond for the jail will be paid off in 2015. Teghtmeyer stated he believes the economic director could be funded out of the EDIT fund.

Courtney referenced the Ball State Bowen Center for Public Affairs study and how the study could impact the County. Robinson remarked the Ball State/Bowen Center study has been beneficial to other counties that have implemented the ideas from the study.

McSherry will check with the County Commissioners on potential dates for a joint executive meeting. It was noted the executive session would involve full bodies of both parties.

The Commission reviewed the websites for redevelopment commissions of neighboring counties and discussion ensued regarding the similarities and differences with the Kosciusko County website.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Absent

Henry DeJulia, President

oodward, Secretary

Max Courtney Vice President

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

# KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, February 11, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, February 11, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, Larry Teghtmeyer, and Ron Yeiter. Also present for the meeting was County Administrator, Ron Robinson, County Auditor, Marsha McSherry and USDA Area Specialist, Jeff Devers.

In the Matter of Swearing in of the Commission:

County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, swore in the following member of the Redevelopment Commission for 2010: Henry DeJulia.

President Henry DeJulia called the meeting to order and the January 14, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

#### In Old Business:

In the Matter of Ball State Bowen Center Study:

Max Courtney referenced the Ball State Bowen Center for Public Affairs study and how the study could impact the County. Courtney stated the County will find out around the end of February whether they will qualify for the Ball State/Bowen Center study and its benefits.

# In the Matter of Meetings with Industry Executives and other County Redevelopment Commission:

- ❖ Max Courtney attended a meeting with the Marshall County Redevelopment Commission and referenced their speaker Roger Umbaugh and how the County dealt with certain issues. Courtney noted KDI will be visiting Marshall County again to see how their Redevelopment Commission and County work together.
- Courtney suggested touching base with the attendees of the Joint Redevelopment meeting in the near future.
- Discussion was held on potential locations for KDI and/or a County-wide Economic Director and also KDI's role in the growth of the County.

#### **New Business:**

In the Matter of Industrial Parks within the County:

President Henry DeJulia stated he asked GIS Director, Bill Holder, to prepare a map outlining the location of industrial parks within the County. Bruce Woodward expressed the importance of including ground that is zoned industrial but may not be located within an "Industrial Park". Holder noted he previously prepared a map of water and sewer lines within the City of Warsaw. Bill Warren expressed the importance of including sewer and water lines that are available to a prospective property.

# In the Matter of Industrial Parks within the County Continued:

Larry Teghtmeyer questioned the classifications of an industrial park as opposed to industrial-zoned land. DeJulia responded that an industrial park has covenants and restrictions as to what types of businesses and/or restrictions for businesses within that industrial park.

Holder explained he reviewed a website for Delaware County/Muncie that illustrates geographic location of industrial parks, available properties and available buildings within that area. Holder then suggested a similar website for Kosciusko County to showcase available properties within the County complete with geographic locations and pictures of the land and/or buildings.

Courtney agreed with the advantages a website could provide and referenced OrthoWorx and the possible ripple effect they may have on our community. Courtney added a website may be a great tool for the County.

Warren questioned whether the layers for sewer and water lines and available land in the County could be added to the GIS website instead of a new website. Holder responded that adding additional layers to the numerous existing layers may be too much information to navigate through the website.

Holder stated he has been working with the cities and towns within the County to map the existing sewer and water lines. DeJulia noted the maps would be a valuable tool to an economic developer/director to market the County to prospective businesses and existing businesses looking to expand and/or relocate. The Commission Members agreed the smaller outlying towns have great assets to contribute to new and existing businesses and should not be left out of any plans for the County. Discussion ensued extolling the virtues of the smaller communities within the County and how smaller businesses can benefit from building or relocating to those communities. The Members also agreed mapping out the owners of potential building sites could be beneficial to existing and/or new businesses.

# In the Matter of Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program:

Jeff Devers, Area Specialist with the USDA, introduced a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program that is available through the USDA. Devers explained the purpose of the grant as well as the applicant eligibility and the use of grant funds. Devers stated the grants are extremely competitive as limited funding is available. Devers then referenced a checklist of documents that are to be submitted with the grant application. Devers also stated there are websites available through the USDA for information regarding the grant and the application process.

Devers then referenced the selection factors in the grant process:

- Population
- Economic conditions unemployment and median household income
- ❖ Applicant experience
- \* Evidence of small business development

# In the Matter of Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program Continued:

- Commitment of nonfederal funding sources
- Evidence of need for a revolving loan fund
- Evidence of jobs to be created/saved
- ❖ Project is part of a community/economic development plan covering the project area
- Grant size
- State Director discretionary points

Devers highlighted other facets of the USDA programs noting there are full grants, matching grants and low interest loans also available through the USDA. He added low interest loans available through the USDA can help small businesses and entrepreneurs start their business. Devers noted the County could also apply for a grant and then loan the proceeds to businesses at a low interest rate.

Devers urged grant applications be submitted as soon as possible as the level of funding fluctuates from year to year. Devers also noted additional funding may be available on a national level as every State does not use their allocated funds.

Discussion was held regarding the qualifications of an entity to participate in the grant program. Concerns were also addressed regarding population of the County as a qualification for the grant program. Devers felt the County's population would not be a problem and the County would qualify for the grant as long as all the proceeds were not allocated to one recipient.

The Redevelopment Commission members thanked Devers for attending the meeting and providing them with information on the RBEG program.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Parry Teghtmeyer Nember

Max Courtney, Vice Pres

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,

# KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, March 11, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, March 11, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, Larry Teghtmeyer, and Ron Yeiter. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry and GIS Director, Bill Holder.

#### In Old Business:

In the Matter of Map Overlays within the County:

President Henry DeJulia referenced the Redevelopment Commission's prior meeting where he asked GIS Director, Bill Holder, to prepare a map outlining the location of industrial zoned land and industrial parks within the County. Holder created another, larger map of the county with overlays showing the locations of TIF areas, industrial zoned land, industrial parks, sewer lines and water lines. DeJulia noted some of the smaller towns have identified industrial areas and created TIF areas for those industrial zoned land.

The Commission members reviewed the map followed by a general discussion on several areas of interest.

DeJulia expressed the need for an inventory of available properties throughout the County and suggested each member research a portion of the map. Holder noted smaller maps could be generated for convenience.

#### New Business:

In the Matter of High Speed Rail - Southern Route:

Courtney explained the Southern Route of the High Speed Rail would run from Cleveland through Ft Wayne, and Warsaw and on to Chicago. Courtney recommended lobbying local and national officials in support of a stop in Warsaw as opposed to a pass through. Courtney noted the orthopedic companies and OrthoWorx are also in favor of the high speed rail stopping in Warsaw. DeJulia suggested drafting a letter from the Redevelopment Commission in support of the high speed rail stopping in Warsaw.

Discussion was held regarding hosting a "mixer" to lobby for support of the High Speed Rail stopping in Warsaw. Possible attendees included legislators, heads of businesses, town officials as well as neighboring counties' officials.

In the Matter of Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program:

DeJulia referenced the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program that was discussed at the Commissions' previous meeting. DeJulia noted possibly using the grant monies in conjunction with KDI's revolving loan program. DeJulia then noted he would like to table discussion of the RBEG program until their next meeting, but requested the Commission review documents regarding RBEG Program as well as the Noble County Rural Development Council information that he also provided.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Max Courtney, Vice President

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,

# KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, April 8, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, April 8, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, and Larry Teghtmeyer. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, Ron Robinson and Kim Nance, KDI.

The meeting was called to order and the March 11, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

#### In Old Business:

In the Matter of Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program:

President Henry DeJulia referenced the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program that was discussed at the Commissions' previous meeting. DeJulia noted possibly using the grant monies in conjunction with KDI's revolving loan program.

Bruce Woodward expressed concern applying for grant funds without specific goals or definitions for the usage of those funds. DeJulia thought the monies could be used for industrial and commercial businesses needing assistance. Woodward expressed further concern if it was the Redevelopment Commission's place to be loaning money to businesses. DeJulia responded the loan monies could be considered as a tool for economic development. Discussion was held as to the process of loaning the funds and where the funds would be held and how and where the funds are repaid. Discussion continued as to the specifications and criteria the Commission could set up for businesses to obtain a loan from those funds.

Bill Warren stated it would be an advantage to have the funds available to businesses especially if there is no cost to the County, however expressed concern with what agency would manage the grant funds. Max Courtney and DeJulia stated a local bank would administer the grant funds.

Kim Nance, KDI, stated if a loan program was offered, advertising would be beneficial so businesses would know where to obtain an application.

Larry Teghtmeyer expressed concern with the selection process and not showing preference to one company over another as well as the need to pay attention to companies' repayment history. Discussion ensued regarding the use of collateral with the loan process.

# In the Matter of Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program Continued:

Nance noted the loans also appeal to smaller businesses since the loan is at a low interest rate and the smaller businesses may have difficulty in obtaining a conventional bank loan. Nance further noted the committee to review the loan applications can be made up of local bankers to ensure the proper criteria are met to receive the loan. DeJulia felt the Redevelopment Commission could be the committee that would oversee the loan application process. Nance stated the minimum loan amount with the bank as administrator is \$10,000 due to the paperwork involved. Nance noted KDI can accept "micro-loans" for lesser amounts since the paperwork is less. Warren extolled the virtues of providing micro-loans to smaller businesses that may not need a larger RBEG loan.

Courtney stated KDI is also investigating an "incubator" for businesses in conjunction with the micro-loans.

Woodward reiterated grant monies are a good thing, however felt there may be a duplication of services and thought KDI could oversee micro-loans and the incubator project.

Courtney noted any economic development plan should be for the entire county and not just Warsaw or larger businesses.

DeJulia asked for thoughts on the grant. Woodward was not opposed to the grant but believes KDI or a county-wide economic development committee should administer the grant funds. DeJulia noted a more diversified group should make up the committee as opposed to banking representatives.

The question was raised if the Redevelopment Commission was a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organization. County Administrator, Ron Robinson, noted the Commission was neither as they have not applied for either status. Courtney then suggested the Commission let KDI apply for a grant.

The consensus of the Commission was to work with KDI on RBEG program as opposed to the Commission applying.

# In the Matter of High Speed Rail - Southern Route:

President Henry DeJulia presented a letter regarding the Southern Route of the High Speed Rail. DeJulia requested the Commission members sign the letter in support of the Southern Route of the High Speed Rail stopping in Warsaw. It was noted the letters would be sent to State representatives and Washington delegates as well as transportation officials.

#### In New Business:

## In the Matter of Attending Marketing Seminars:

President Henry DeJulia presented seminar/marketing materials and questioned whether there are any budget monies available to allow commission members to attend the marketing seminars. County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, provided the Commission budget to DeJulia.

### In the Matter of Attending Marketing Seminars Continued:

Discussion was held regarding a visit to Columbus, IN by some Commission members to visit with their economic development committee and review their progress in that county. Courtney noted a key facet to the Columbus committee was the involvement of their entire county and not just the major town(s). Everyone who attended found the trip insightful and gathered a lot of useful information.

Discussion was then held regarding attracting supplier companies for the orthopedic industry. Discussion ensued on the importance of marketing Kosciusko County in a proper way to compete with larger cities.

In the Matter of MaCog Seminar:

County Administrator, Ron Robinson, stated on April 14, 2010 at 1:30p.m., Sandy Senor of MaCog will have an informational meeting in the video-conference room in the Justice Building. Robinson noted the topic of the meeting will be programs available through MaCog.

In the Matter of Redevelopment Commission Meeting "On the Road":

Max Courtney suggested holding the Redevelopment Commission meetings at different locations throughout the County. County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, expressed concern with having the ability to tape record the meeting at the various locations. President Henry DeJulia noted some concern with getting notice to the various communities of the meeting so it could be well attended.

In the Matter of Possible Guest Speaker:

Max Courtney suggested having someone from the Whitley County Economic Development Corporation speak to the group regarding the 30 Industrial Park and the use of TIF in creating the park.

DeJulia agreed it would be nice to hear how other counties have accomplished projects Courtney stated he would contact Alan Tió from Whitley County about speaking at the May meeting.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, Rresident

Bruce Wøødward, Secretary

Larry Teghtmeyer, Member

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,

# KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom

Thursday, June 10, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, June 10, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, and Larry Teghtmeyer. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, Ron Robinson, Kim Nance, Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation and Todd Samuelson, Umbaugh Associates.

The meeting was called to order and the April 8, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

#### In New Business:

In the Matter of Annual TIF Analysis:

President Henry DeJulia presented letters to be sent to the County Council regarding no allocation of excess funds for the following TIF areas: Maple Leaf, Louis Dreyfus, and Leesburg (Plain).

Todd Samuelson of Umbaugh Associates explained the Redevelopment Commission is bound by Statute to determine by July 1, 2010 whether any assessed value as captured in the TIF area could be passed through to other taxing units. Samuelson noted any excess value in the case of Dreyfus needs to be utilized for the outstanding bonds held by Dreyfus.

Motion:

Bill Warren

Second:

Bruce Woodward

Ayes:

4

Abstain: 0

Motion Carried

To: Approve letters noting no excess funds were collected that can be allocated to other taxing units in the Maple Leaf, Louis Dreyfus and Leesburg (Plain) TIF

areas as presented.

### In the Matter of OrthoTech Expo:

Kim Nance, Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation stated the KEDC was able to secure a booth at the OrthoTech expo which hosted 123 exhibitors who were mainly orthopedic related companies and suppliers. Nance explained KEDC's goal was to market the County to companies looking to open a new facility to support existing industry. Nance noted other States and/or Counties are aggressively recruiting existing companies as well as potential companies. She added the KEDC is working diligently to support local companies as well as market Kosciusko County to potential companies. Nance expressed the importance of providing assistance to existing companies to fulfill their supplier needs.

Henry DeJulia stated the expo was well attended and informative and suggested in the future providing tours of the County showcasing its assets to exhibitors. DeJulia noted valuable marketing materials were available through the KEDC booth.

Nance stated the expo also provided a positive impact on the hotels and restaurants in the area and exhibitors appreciated the friendliness and helpfulness of the community and its residents.

### In the Matter of OrthoTech Expo Continued:

Discussion ensued regarding other projects the KEDC is working on and also the importance of keeping in touch with existing companies to retain their business. Nance added this is a very exciting time for the County as there are many things happening.

### In the Matter of Economic Director Position:

Max Courtney stated he is hopeful to have an Economic Director in place within sixty (60) days. Courtney noted approximately twenty (20) applications were received that were narrowed down to six (6) applicants who have been interviewed.

Bruce Woodward expressed the importance of stressing the quality of life in the communities within the County as an attraction to potential companies and their employees.

# In the Matter of Community Conversation through KEDC:

Kim Nance stated the KEDC received a grant through Ball State University to host a "Community Conversation" where different guest speakers will address the community on economic development and its importance.

### In the Matter of TIF and Tax Abatements in County:

President Henry DeJulia stated one (1) facet to making ground "shovel ready" is setting in place a TIF area and letting a company know whether tax abatement is available.

Todd Samuelson from Umbaugh Associates noted he could return at a later date with a comprehensive plan for the County regarding economic development. Samuelson warned that tax abatement causes a loss of revenue for TIF and a TIF takes revenue away from every other entity that would normally benefit from tax revenue, i.e. schools, library, etc. Samuelson then noted there is a twenty-five (25) year limit on capturing tax dollars in a TIF area.

Bruce Woodward added tax abatements are a great tool for new businesses, helping them to get established and potentially grow, which benefits the County with additional tax dollars. Samuelson pointed out the need to look at the TIF areas and abatements in conjunction with tax caps. Discussion ensued regarding the matter with Nance noting it is important to have guidelines in place for TIF areas as larger companies looking to relocate want that information right away.

# In the Matter of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds:

President Henry DeJulia referenced the Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds that must be used by December 31, 2010 or the money reverts back to the Federal Government. Todd Samuelson from Umbaugh Associates stated the Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond must be used for public development with the Federal Government paying 45% of the interest on the loan. Samuelson noted the Commissioners would control the allocations through the bond. Samuelson added the grants are a financing tool for a potential project and the entity must provide a source of repayment.

Samuelson stated the Facility Bonds must be used by private companies and are tax exempt on interest and are similar to Industrial Revenue Bond.

Samuelson cautioned beginning a project based solely on the availability of the bond; however stated it may be a valuable tool if there are currently projects being considered.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, President

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,
Kosciusko County Auditor

## KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, August 12, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, August 12, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, and Larry Teghtmeyer. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, Ron Robinson, Kim Nance, Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation, Jeremy Skinner, City of Warsaw Planner, Don Miller and David Dills, Members of Claypool Town Council.

The meeting was called to order and the June 10, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

### In New Business:

In the Matter of Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation Update:

Kim Nance, Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation, stated the Executive Director will begin on September 1, 2010 noting he will bring experience and education to the KEDC. Nance stated the new Executive Director will stress education and training of the workforce. Nance also noted the importance of coordinating with the towns and cities for economic development.

Nance then stated the KEDC will be moving into the Justice Building and thanked the County for their work and support in preparing an office space for the KEDC.

Nance stated the KEDC is awaiting a response from a company that is looking to relocate to the County noting there will be an additional twenty (20) jobs. Nance added this potential company works with both the orthopedic and agricultural business.

Nance then stated in conjunction with the "Community Conversation" held in June, the KEDC is holding a "Community Action Coordinating Council" kick-off luncheon on September 10, 2010. Nance noted members of the Council are from the Visitor's Bureau, Chambers of Commerce and area schools.

Bruce Woodward added the Council will be a tool for communication as well as a way to use the resources more economically without duplicating resources.

Nance expressed her appreciation for the work and support from the Redevelopment Commission and its members.

# In the Matter of TIF and Tax Abatements in County:

President Henry DeJulia stated he invited Warsaw City Planner, Jeremy Skinner and Claypool Council members Don Miller and David Dills to get their input on TIF and tax abatements for their respective areas. Don Miller noted the railroad is the greatest asset for the Town of Claypool but also the biggest detriment to town residents.

Discussion ensued regarding the sewer capacity as well as other utilities in and around the Town of Claypool. Discussion included possible industrial or commercial development on State Road 15 near Louis Dreyfus.

# In the Matter of TIF and Tax Abatements in County Continued:

Miller noted Claypool residents prefer the small town feel of Claypool and have concerns with industrial and/or commercial growth. Miller stated he would like to see further residential growth to support the elementary school. Miller noted there was never any opposition from town residents regarding Dreyfus, noting Dreyfus supports the elementary school and has also helped with funding for the police department.

Discussion ensued relating to working with smaller communities to help facilitate economic growth. Miller noted most Council members in Claypool as well as other smaller communities work full-time and have limited resources and time to do research so any help from the County is greatly appreciated. Max Courtney suggested the smaller communities become more involved with the committees within the KEDC. Teghtmeyer added the Redevelopment Commission wants to work with the smaller communities to help facilitate growth, and continuing dialogue with those communities is most important so as to compliment, not compete with the communities.

Discussion then continued regarding the status of the TIF districts within Warsaw and also regarding annexation of property by the City of Warsaw. Jeremy Skinner added the importance of having a plan first before creating a TIF district.

Max Courtney requested updated information on capacities of city/town sewer systems and whether the capacity will allow the creation and support of a TIF district. County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, noted her office will contact the cities/towns to update their sewer capacities.

Max Courtney referenced the "Jump Start Program" where funds are generated from donations from the private or corporate sector. Courtney noted the general public understands the need for growth in the community. Courtney suggested the Town of Claypool ask for donations from residents to fund a consultant to help with expansion along State Road 15.

Don Miller questioned what costs are involved in setting up a TIF district. Jeremy Skinner and Henry DeJulia both responded the costs of a TIF include: recording fees, survey/title co, tax consultant, attorney fees, advertisement costs and any cost for a public hearing.

DeJulia suggested continuing to invite the cities and towns to the Redevelopment meetings, with the possibility of a onetime meeting with a representative from every town and Buddy Downs, ICE Miller, LLP to answer questions the group may have.

In the Matter of Old Road 30 Roundabout Project:

County Auditor, Marsha McSherry on behalf of County Administrator, Ron Robinson, stated that an additional \$1.5 million has been awarded to the County for the installation of two (2) roundabouts on Old Road 30 at Fox Farm Road and Zimmer Road. McSherry added the last right-of-way property acquisitions are taking place. Discussion was then held regarding Fox Farm Road from US 30 to Old Road 30.

Henry DeJulia, President

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,
Kosciusko County Auditor

# KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, September 9, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, September 9, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, Bill Warren, and Larry Teghtmeyer. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, Ron Robinson, and George Robertson, Executive Director of Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation.

The meeting was called to order and the August 12, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

### In New Business:

# In the Matter of Overlay Districts through Area Plan Commission:

Matt Sandy, Area Plan Assistant Director, reviewed the overlay district on State Road 15 that was adopted in 2007. Sandy stated the section north of Warsaw and south of Leesburg has seen the most interest in development. Sandy added a retirement community has shown interest in the district but are still in the preliminary stages of development. Sandy then stated the new Madison Elementary also fell into the overlay district.

Larry Teghtmeyer questioned the regulations within an overlay district. Sandy responded the State has guidelines in place that must be followed to set-up an overlay district. Sandy also stated the guidelines address access points, aesthetics, landscaping and compatibility (land use). Sandy noted zoning was not addressed within the district so there would be fewer issues for a potential developer. Sandy also noted the overlay district allows for an overall review of a project and the ability to work with the developer at the beginning of the project.

# In the Matter of Commercial Sites throughout the County:

Bruce Woodward referenced existing commercial sites throughout the County noting the importance of the railroad access that exists.

Discussion ensued regarding the importance of the smaller communities within the County, i.e. Etna Green, Atwood, Silver Lake, etc.

Dialogue then developed regarding the Old Road 30 roundabout project with Ron Robinson, County Administrator, stating eventual work will need to be completed on Fox Farm Road and McElroy hill on County Road 150W.

# In the Matter of Kosciusko Economic Development Corp Executive Director

Max Courtney introduced George Robertson, KEDC Executive Director, with the Redevelopment Commission members providing a brief bio of themselves for Robertson's benefit.

In the Matter of Kosciusko Economic Development Corp Executive Director Introduction Continued:

Robertson provided the Commission his background from growing up in South Dakota to his first economic development position. Robertson referenced his background in law enforcement, not-for-profit, and business owner, economic director in upstate New York helping General Electric. Robertson noted the importance of business retention and expansion in some areas and business attraction in other areas. Robertson also referenced his experiences in Louisiana and Maryland. Robertson extolled the virtues of the Warsaw community stating the residents are an asset as well as the businesses. Robertson stated his goal as executive director has always been to create a community that 20 year olds want to live and raise their family in. Robertson noted virtues that 20 year olds look for are green areas (walkways, lakes), continuing education opportunities and safety for raising families. Robertson then stated he operates with three (3) "C's": communication, cooperation and collaboration.

Larry Teghtmeyer referenced Healthy Communities and possible grant availability. He will gather information together and meet with Robertson to review the information.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Absent

Henry DeJulia, President

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Larry Teghtmeyer, Member

Marsha McSherry,

### KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, October 14, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, October 14, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Max Courtney, Bruce Woodward, and Larry Teghtmeyer. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, Ron Robinson, George Robertson, KEDC Executive Director, Tony Cirello, Syracuse Police Chief and Dave Behr, Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

The meeting was called to order and the September 9, 2010 minutes were approved as presented.

#### In New Business:

### In the Matter of Economic Development Effect on Emergency Services:

Henry DeJulia requested Tony Cirello, Syracuse Police Chief; discuss the effect of economic development and expansion on emergency services, i.e. police, fire and EMS. Cirello stated economic development is usually thought of in terms of business and infrastructure growth, with little or no thought given to the impact that potential growth will have on safety services. He added with that growth there is often a need for additional safety service employees. Cirello noted the importance of planning for those services also when considering infrastructure plans so as to avoid a lapse in services to taxpayers.

Discussion ensued regarding emergency services responding to service calls throughout the County. Circllo referenced the creation of the Turkey Creek fire territory, along with the purchase of a ladder fire truck resulting in decreased tax rates for residents within the fire territory.

Larry Teghtmeyer commented the inter-local cooperation between the County Sheriff and local police departments throughout the County has worked well. Cirello agreed adding there are written mutual aid agreements between fire departments; however there are no written agreements between police departments.

Bruce Woodward then initiated a discussion regarding the increased number of summer lake residents and the effect that increase has on emergency services in correlation with the number of safety service personnel available.

### In the Matter of KEDCO Update:

George Robertson, KEDCO Executive Director, stated there are two (2) essentials in economic development: real estate/evaluation of site readiness and available workforce. He then stated KEDCO is working to update data on available services including fiber optics to potential sites.

#### In the Matter of KEDCO Update Continued:

Robertson felt the County should work on developing independent marketing for prospective businesses as opposed to relying on the State as the only pipeline to bring new business into the County. Robertson added Kosciusko County is in a good position for growth when the economy improves. Robertson then added the effort to invigorate the community has been significant; and the County has gained a reputation as being business-friendly, a compliment to the community.

Henry DeJulia questioned the use of "branding" for the County. Robertson responded working together with neighboring counties will benefit Kosciusko County far more than marketing. He added working in cooperation with other counties may help with spousal jobs as well as additional vendor opportunities. Robertson went on to say Kosciusko County is "branded" as the Orthopedic Capital of the world; however the "brand" should not be limited to orthopedics. Robertson added entrepreneurship, innovation and a skilled workforce can help to support the "brand" within the County. He also noted the addition of an Entrepreneur/Innovations Hall of Fame would support the "brand" within the County.

Robertson noted it is important to look at what you have; however you also need to look at where you want to go in terms of where technology is heading and how the County plans to support that new technology and its business components.

### In the Matter of Indiana Economic Development Corporation:

Dave Behr of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation spoke to the Redevelopment Commission on Economic Improvement Districts. Behr stated the IEDC is the State's lead economic development agency and services all counties in the State. Behr added there are four (4) cluster industries within the IEDC: vehicle production, defense, energy and life sciences and his focus in mainly in the life sciences. He went on to say that he covers five (5) counties (Kosciusko, Elkhart, Marshall, St. Joseph and Fulton); however his job is to sell the State of Indiana to prospective businesses.

Behr reported that State incentives are the same for all counties; however a county must offer some type of incentives also. Discussion ensued regarding incentives available to prospective companies throughout Indiana both from the State and County. Dialogue was then held regarding tax abatements as incentives for existing and potential companies. Behr noted partnerships between the IEDC and counties are key for development.

Dialogue then developed regarding the confidence taxpayers and potential companies have in the status of the economy. Behr noted companies are making profits but are not confident enough in the economy to hire additional employees. Behr expressed the importance of larger companies taking the first steps to hire additional employees or expand as an example of the improving economy.

Discussion was also held regarding the availability of real estate and/or buildings in counties serviced by Behr. Behr noted there are shovel ready sites available throughout the State; however the process to make sites shovel ready is lengthy and there are expenses involved. He added many of the expenses incurred are reimbursable.

### In the Matter of Indiana Economic Development Corporation Continued:

Larry Teghtmeyer questioned whether the State is seeking international companies as potential businesses looking to relocate. Behr noted the State is actively seeking out those companies and referenced the importance of international prospects.

#### In the Matter of VIP Program:

Henry DeJulia discussed various programs and grants available through the Federal and State government agencies. DeJulia stated many grants and/or programs are available but expressed concern with the difficulty in locating them on websites.

#### In the Matter of Tourism Effect on Communities:

Bruce Woodward noted the recent car show that was held at the Village of Winona and referenced the effect of tourism on the communities within the County.

### In the Matter of Meeting Date Change:

Henry DeJulia reminded Commission members their next meeting would be held on the first Thursday of November (November 4<sup>th</sup>) as County offices would be closed in observance of Veteran's Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, President

Max Courtney, Vice President

Absent

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Larry Teghtmeyer, Member

Marsha McSherry,

### KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, November 4, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, November 4, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Bruce Woodward, and Bill Warren. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, George Robertson, KEDC Executive Director, and Tammy Cotton, Syracuse/Wawasee Chamber of Commerce Director.

The meeting was called to order and the October 14, 2010 minutes were approved by members in attendance. Bill Warren not being present at the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting voted to approve the minutes; however will not sign the minutes as presented.

#### In Old Business:

In the Matter of Economic Improvement District:

Henry DeJulia discussed the workings of an Economic Improvement District (EID) stating it is a taxable mechanism that allows a tax for a development or district. DeJulia stated the boundaries of an area are set and the taxes within that area are captured and can then be used to establish and finance infrastructure in that designated area. DeJulia added the EID is used primarily for retail and commercial areas.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of the EID versus a TIF District. Bruce Woodward referenced the Zimmer building where TIF money was used by the City of Warsaw for renovations to Central Park and to relocate Canal Street.

Discussion was held regarding grants received by Syracuse for the industrial park. DeJulia stated the \$2.1 million and \$500,000 grants came from the Economic Development Administration and Special Development Initiative.

#### In New Business:

In the Matter of Syracuse Chamber of Commerce Director Presentation:

Tammy Cotton, Syracuse/Wawasee Chamber of Commerce Director, thanked the Commission for the opportunity to attend the meeting. Cotton stated she would like to learn more about redevelopment in order to help the Chamber work on projects to draw people into Syracuse during the winter months. Cotton then stated the Chamber is working with the CVB and expressed the importance of communication between the communities and working together through the CVB. Cotton noted the "Chamber Coalition" was recently formed and now meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. Cotton added the Coalition provides the opportunity to meet in different communities and provide help to each community. She also noted it allows the Chambers to see what is going on throughout the County.

In the Matter of Syracuse Chamber of Commerce Director Presentation Continued: Discussion was held regarding the rejuvenation of downtown Syracuse. Discussion was also held regarding the challenges of filling empty building(s) within the Town and outlying areas.

In the Matter of KEDCO Update:

George Robertson, KEDCO Executive Director, discussed the vacant buildings and available land throughout the County. Robertson stated there are two (2) essentials in economic development: real estate/evaluation of site readiness and available workforce. Robertson added KEDCO is now evaluating all available buildings and land in the County. Robertson has found companies want and need "clear span" buildings allowing for increased flexibility in workspace.

Robertson noted the County has a significant number of available sites for potential companies; however many are not as developed as need be. Robertson added KEDCO will work with developers and service providers to expedite the infrastructure process. Robertson stated KEDCO will also develop marketing material per building site instead of the County as a whole stating the importance of site data and marketing data for each individual site.

Robertson felt the County should work on developing independent marketing for prospective businesses as opposed to relying on the State as the only pipeline to bring new business into the County. Robertson added Kosciusko County is in a good position for growth when the economy improves.

Robertson referenced the "mega site" in Milford that is 250 acres stating not many prospects are looking for a site that size. Robertson added buildings that are 20,000 - 30,000 square feet are in more demand than larger buildings.

Robertson stated an area the County is lacking in is distribution, one of the fastest growing industries. Robertson added distribution is critical to supply businesses as they are not keeping large amounts of stock on hand any longer. Robertson discussed the importance of finding a "hole" or missing facet in the marketplace and filling that area.

Robertson added KEDCO's business retention committee will focus on contacting existing companies for updated workforce data to help establish workforce patterns. Robertson noted the importance of finding skill shortages that may exist in the County and working with colleges to fill those positions.

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Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry De Ivlia President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Absent

Larry Teghtmeyer, Member

Absent

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,

### KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Courthouse, Old Courtroom Thursday, December 9, 2010

The Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, December 9, 2010, in the Old Courtroom, Kosciusko County Courthouse. Members present included: Henry DeJulia, Bruce Woodward, Max Courtney, Larry Teghtmeyer and Bill Warren. Also present for the meeting was County Auditor, Marsha McSherry, Josh Gordon, KEDCo, and Chip Hill, Town of Pierceton Water, Streets & Sewer Superintendent.

The meeting was called to order and the November 4, 2010 minutes were approved as presented. Bruce Woodward complimented the Auditor's office for their diligence in preparing of the minutes for the Commission.

#### In New Business:

### In the Matter of KEDCO Update:

Max Courtney for KEDCo gave the following update on KEDCo's work:

- ❖ Working on infrastructure by contacting approximately 150 companies in the County to establish what skill set is needed for new or existing employees and what the County can do to help provide that skill set.
- ❖ Josh Gordon, KEDCo, also stated the importance of connecting with site selectors for prospective companies to be sure they are aware of available sites throughout the County.
- Refresh and update the KEDCo website to include video testimonials as this may be a potential company's first view of the County and what it has to offer.
- Hall of Fame to encompass other businesses leaders including but not limited to the orthopedic companies.
- Searching for new ways to make County more attractive to prospective companies.
- ❖ KEDCo still collecting information on available sites as well as working on agreements with site owners in preparation for a potential company.
- Discussion held regarding the importance of involving developers in criteria needed to market properties to prospective companies. Town of Pierceton Representative, Chip Hill, added he was approached by a developer to add water and sewer to a vacant site but without a potential buyer in line, the investment is not worth it. Gordon noted the importance of meeting with George Robertson, KEDCo Director; prior to meeting with developers in order make sure all possible items are covered.

Discussion was held regarding "shovel ready" sites available throughout the County and the importance of fiber optics available to a site. It was also noted there are many variables involved in the process of making a site "shovel ready" and it may not be necessary to have "shovel ready" sites available if conversations have been had with developers in preparation for future growth.

#### In the Matter of KEDCO Update Continued:

Max Courtney stated KEDCo created the Community Advisory Council which is made up of various business people from different areas in the community such as the schools, towns, realtors, etc. Courtney noted the purpose of the CAC is to continue economic development and keep the topic at the forefront of the community's thinking.

Larry Teghtmeyer expressed concern with business growth in Whitley County and why those businesses did not locate in Kosciusko County. Courtney responded the Whitley County property offered criteria that particular company wanted/needed such as closer access to the Fort Wayne airport, fiber optics and the layer of taxes involved (County versus City).

Courtney stated Economic Director Robertson sees the need to look at the issue of the trailing spouse and finding employment by working with neighboring counties. Courtney added keeping the lines of communication open is key whether it's with neighboring counties or communities within the County.

#### In the Matter of Town of Pierceton:

Discussion was then held regarding the available land within Pierceton and its industrial parks. Chip Hill, Town of Pierceton Superintendent, added Paragon has been a big asset to Pierceton. Hill noted Pierceton has received contacts for new businesses from REMC with Pierceton being one of REMC's largest users.

Bill Warren noted a "fast track board" would be beneficial adding the importance of lining up any potential factors (i.e. County, Area Plan, sewer, utilities, etc.) before a potential buyer shows interest. Josh Gordon, KEDCo suggested meeting with Robertson prior to meeting with developers in order to make sure all possible items are covered.

Discussion continued regarding growth in and around Pierceton along with the growth of existing companies within Pierceton.

### In the Matter of KEDCO Presentation:

Josh Gordon, KEDCo, discussed creating an online incubator for Kosciusko County to assist small businesses with their needs for start-up and growth as seen in neighboring counties. Gordon stated a website under the name KBRC – Kosciusko Business Resource Center - will contain business resources for new or young businesses both locally owned and operated. Gordon expressed the importance of the website containing viable information and to be sure it is user friendly, and added the website is a work in progress.

#### In the Matter of KEDCO Presentation Continued:

Discussion ensued on the value of a mentor network for new and upcoming businesses. The Commission noted the importance of networking with CPA's, attorneys and bankers to aid with start-up businesses. Gordon expressed the importance of networking with colleges also, using college students to help the new business owners; giving the students a great learning experience as well as providing the business with free or inexpensive help.

Max Courtney stated the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce is shifting their focus to retail services, cultivating existing relationships and adding new retail business. He encouraged the Commission members to attend some of the Chamber's meetings. Courtney also expressed the importance of working with George Robertson, KEDCo Director, to keep the Redevelopment Commission focused and working in conjunction with KEDCo.

#### In Other Matters:

Bruce Woodward stated communication is key with investors as well as with developers. Woodward noted with industrial development comes residential and small retail developments as well as relocation of schools, i.e. Madison.

Henry DeJulia referenced the Warsaw Municipal Airport and its importance to the County. Woodward stated the City of Warsaw owns the Airport but the entire county receives its benefits. Woodward noted many studies and being conducted and many more will be conducted regarding different options at the Airport but the County does need to stay involved. Woodward then stated he will be approaching the Commissioners and Council regarding the need for a joint City/County Planning Task Force. DeJulia noted the importance of involving the County's Area Plan Commission in future plans for development. Woodward felt the Redevelopment Commission should set future meeting agendas with two (2) or three (3) specific goals/projects to work on for the year.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Henry DeJulia, President

Bruce Woodward, Secretary

Lacry Teghtmeyer, Member

Max Courtney, Vice President

Bill Warren, Treasurer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry,