



DRIVE Board Meeting Minutes
May 4th, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Erdly, Alan Neuner, John Uehling, James Pachuki (via Zoom), Justin Ross, Leslie Temple, Dan Knorr, Jeff Reber, Sam Schiccatano, Dave Park, Jennifer Wakeman, Susan McGarry, Joe Kantz, Trevor Finn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeb Stotter, Chris Young

GUESTS PRESENT:

Karen Hackman, RHP Law Group, Amanda Craig Bradley (Business Outreach Manager), Aidan McDonald (Facilities Manager), Amanda Schell (Administrative Assistant).

The meeting was called to order by Leslie Temple at 8:30am.

Leslie noted no members of the public and no public comment on agenda items.

MINUTES:

Trevor Finn noted a correction needed to be made to the April 8th minutes to adjust language to reflect that a discussion of broadband contract draft revisions was tabled until changes to the contract were finalized.

- April 8, 2022 Board Meeting: Motion by Trevor Finn to accept the minutes with noted revisions, Al Neuner seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Knorr presented the Treasurer's Report. He noted a \$100,000 donation from the dissolution of SIDCO and continued expenses associated with the building renovation project. He reported that the Finance Committee had recently met and is planning to meet with bank representatives about DRIVE's investment accounts over the summer.

Jennifer Wakeman noted the inclusion of a new report, the P&L Budget Performance, which will be presented on a quarterly basis.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Dave Park, seconded by Al Neuner; carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Executive Director's Report:

Jennifer Wakeman reported that April was replete with announcements of new business ventures, including the Encina Project in Point Township, as well as the Country View Family Farms' announcement to invest in Union County. A copy of a recent The Daily Item article about this project was provided for the Board to review. Wakeman noted that this project was the culmination of the collaborative efforts of DRIVE, Focus Central PA, and the North Shore railroad marketing team.

She reported on the numerous collaborations DRIVE is engaging in with various public partners, as well as private enterprise to continue to support and grow the regional economy.

Last, she informed the group that Tim Hippensteel had recently toured the Port of Philadelphia, along with Dave Park and Joe Kantz. Joe noted that the scale and organization of the operation there was most impressive. Additionally, there appeared to be regional export opportunities in the empty containers being shipped back overseas. Dave Park concurred that the volume of containers being moved through the port was amazing.

Business Retention & Expansion:

Amanda Craig reported that she's made 15 business visits since January of this year. Additionally, KIZ tax credits were announced, with 5 regional businesses receiving awards. Craig continues to add new KIZ clients and visit businesses, as well as promote and grow social media presence in industry. She reported meeting and working with downtown partners for DRIVE to become more of a resource to their needs. Last, she shared that she's been working to support CommonGoods, the new website from the Commonwealth of PA that serves as a link to PA-made products with consumers.

Joe Kantz noted to the group that he's received a lot of inquires regarding the new Country View Family Farms business that's expanding in Union County. He clarified for the Board that the location would not be a hog farm. Additionally, he noted that most of the property would remain as farmland.

OLD BUSINESS:

Leslie Temple inquired if the group had any Old Business to address. Hearing none, she proceeded to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer Wakeman introduced the marked-up version of proposed new Articles of Agreement & Bylaws for the Board. Members should review and send comments prior to the next Board meeting, when it would be voted on. Karen Hackman noted that periodically revising these documents helps to streamline internal processes and governance of the organization.

Next, Wakeman then moved on to the new business of appointing a new Focus Central PA Board Member. After careful consideration of possible contenders, Wakeman proposed Derrick Backer of Northumberland County to fill the vacant seat.

Motion to appoint Derrick Backer to the Focus Central PA Board of Directors made by Sam Schiccatano, seconded by Joe Kantz; carried unanimously.

Leslie Temple moved the meeting to Executive Session at 8:55am to discuss a real estate transaction.

The Executive Session ended at 9:27am.

Motion to add an agenda item regarding a real estate transaction made by Jeff Reber, seconded by John Uehling; carried unanimously.

Leslie Temple read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

Resolved, that pursuant to Section D. of the Amended and Restated Articles of Agreement duly executed by the Boards of Commissioners of Columbia and Montour Counties and the Joinder Agreements of the Boards of Commissioners of Northumberland, Snyder, and Union Counties, DRIVE shall acquire approximately twelve (12) acres of real property situate in Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, for Project Carousel for the nominal sum of One Dollar pursuant to the terms and conditions of the unsigned Donation of Real Estate Agreement ("DREA") dated (for convenience purposes only) May 4, 2022.

Further Resolved that DRIVE's Executive Director Jennifer Wakeman is authorized to execute the DREA and all closing documents and to take all further action as may be necessary or convenient to fully perform all the obligations of DRIVE contained in the DREA Purchase Agreement dated (for convenience purposes only) May 4, 2022.

Motion to accept the terms of the Resolution made by Al Neuner, seconded by Sam Schiccatano; carried unanimously.

Leslie Temple adjourned the meeting at 9:30am.

NEXT MEETING: The DRIVE Board meets again on June 1, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at 418 Railroad Street, Danville

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Neuner, Secretary