

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Economic Development Committee

Remote Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 26, 2020

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Audra Hendrix at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Attendee	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Amy Cesich	Present		
Scott Gryder	Here		
Audra Hendrix	Here		
Matthew Prochaska			
Robyn Vickers	Here		

Others Present: Scott Koepfel

Approval of Agenda – Member Gryder made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Vickers.

Roll Call: Member Hendrix – yes, Member Gryder – yes, Member Cesich – yes, Member Vickers – yes. **With four members voting aye, the motion was approved.**

Approval of April 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes – Member Gryder made a motion to approve the April 17, 2020 meeting minutes, second by Member Cesich. **With four members voting aye, the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.**

Roll Call: Member Gryder – yes, Member Cesich – yes, Member Vickers – yes, Member Hendrix – yes. **With four members voting aye, the motion was approved.**

Committee Business

➤ *Grant Updates*

- *Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program* – Mr. Koepfel updated the committee on the progress of applications that the County has submitted to the State. The state has committee \$20 million total, and have only allocated \$1.3 million thus far, so there is hope that the ones submitted by Kendall County will be awarded soon. Mr. Koepfel briefed the committee on the process with municipalities, and reporting grant funding to the County as they are awarded. Mr. Koepfel reminded the committee on marketing and advertising that is being done by the County and the municipalities in strides to reach as many businesses as possible. Mr. Koepfel stated that the following businesses have submitted applications: Top Notch Kennels, Kennedy Pointe Restaurant, Faith In Designs,

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Inc., Blackberry Golf, Inc., The Home Shows, Emerson Creek Events. Mr. Koepfel stated that none of these applicants was in the first round of awards from DCEO.

- *Federal Economic Development Planning Grant* – Mr. Koepfel stated that the EDA is accepting grant applications regarding Coronavirus expenditures. This would be a way to assist local businesses with recovery and
 - *Business Interruption Grants (BIG)* – Mr. Koepfel reported this is a new grant program providing \$60 million to businesses experiencing losses of business interruption as a result of COVID-19 related closures. DCEO will begin distribution of funds to qualifying businesses in early July. In the first wave of grants, priority will be given to businesses located in disproportionately impacted areas (DIAs), or low-income areas that have had high rates of COVID-19 cases. Applications will be accepted from June 26 through July 7, 2020. Discussion on the specifics, the online application, and timeline for submission to the state.
 - *Distressed Capital Program* – Mr. Koepfel reported on the Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas Program through DCEO for eligible projects in each region. The intent of this program is to support Illinois businesses that have sustained property damage as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020. Funds will be used to reimburse businesses for significant repairs to property that has already occurred or will fund repairs or new construction performed by qualified vendors in order to help the business and community recover as quickly as possible. There is a two-week window for applying, and grants can range from \$1,000 to \$200,000. Member Hendrix stated that information for this and other grant opportunities is available on the Economic Development webpage.
- *Discussion of TPMA Future and Current Contract* – The original agreement was for three-months which will end shortly. Mr. Koepfel reminded the committee of the work Thomas P. Miller & Associates (TPMA) has assisted local businesses with in applying for the Downstate Small Business Grant Program. Mr. Koepfel stated that TPMA could assist with additional grant programs, and informing the communities with other available grant opportunities and support available to them. Mr. Koepfel asked for the committee’s direction on renewing the agreement with TPMA. **There was consensus by the committee to renew the agreement with TPMA for an additional seven-months – through January 30, 2021.** Mr. Koepfel will bring the new contract to the July 7, 2020 County Board meeting for review and approval.
- *Discussion of the State of Local Businesses and Increased County Communication* – Mr. Koepfel reviewed the ideas and information that TPMA would utilize when reaching out to County municipalities in collaboration with municipalities and Economic Development organizations. Discussion on the County’s enhancement to the municipalities, and our desire to continue to assist and inform the municipalities with grant opportunities, assist with economic growth, getting a pulse on local businesses and their needs, and partner with municipalities in building a stronger more viable Kendall County for the benefit of everyone.

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- *Discussion of Extending Revolving Loan Fund Payment Relief* – Discussion on the necessity of extending the Revolving Loan Fund relief, if the participants have asked for the extension, and current restrictions. There was consensus by the committee to extend the relief program for an additional 60-days, and have TPMA contact the loan recipients in August to discuss additional resources with them.

Member Hendrix made a motion to forward the Discussion of Extending the Revolving Loan Fund Payment Relief for an additional 60-days to the County Board, second by Member Vickers.

Roll Call: Member Cesich – yes, Member Gryder – yes, Member Hendrix – yes, Member Prochaska – yes, Member Vickers – yes. **With five members present voting aye, the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.**

Updates and Reports – Revolving Loan Fund data is listed on the last page of the packet.

Chairs Report – No report

Items for the County Board - *Discussion and Approval of Extending the Revolving Loan Fund Payment Relief for an additional 6-days*

Items for the Committee of the Whole Meeting - None

Public Comment – None

Executive Committee – Not needed

Adjournment - Member Gryder made a motion to adjourn, second by Member Vickers. There being no objection, the Economic Development Committee meeting was adjourned at 9:45a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valarie McClain
Administrative Assistant & Recording Secretary