

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 4, 2019

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Attendee	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Amy Cesich	Present		
Scott Gryder		9:03 am	
Audra Hendrix	Here		
Matthew Prochaska	Here		
Robyn Vickers	Here		

Staff Present: Scott Koeppel

Approval of Agenda – Member Prochaska made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Cesich. **With four members voting aye, the motion was approved.**

Approval of August 30, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Member Cesich made a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 meeting minutes, second by Member Prochaska. **With four members voting aye, the motion carried by a vote of 4-0.**

Committee Business

- *Discussion of Kendall County EDO Data Center Incentive Law* – Mr. Koeppel reported that Governor Pritzker signed a data center incentive in law this summer, in hopes of bringing millions of investment dollars and hundreds of new jobs to Illinois. Mr. Koeppel stated that there will be incentives from the state, and that this has the possibility of being a huge power draw for Kendall County with the potential of high-paying jobs, and greater economic development programs, as well as increased revenue for the County.

Mr. Koeppel said that Data Centers support the functionality of all networked, computer-centric devices, such as smart phones, tablets and GPS systems, and could provide additional assistance in Kendall County by bringing greater access to digital tools, creating additional jobs and boosting incomes, and drawing larger businesses to the County.

Discussion on the need for the County to move forward with the development of laws and processes for defining the scope of these Data Centers, and a plan for encouraging investors to choose Kendall County for development opportunities.

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- Member Hendrix reported that she and Mr. Koepfel met with the State's Attorney's Office regarding use of EDC Revolving Loan Fund monies.

Discussion on hiring a county-employed Economic Development Coordinator versus hiring a Director to develop an Economic Development Corporation; salary possibilities to retain a qualified candidate, or simply hiring an Economic Development Consultant. Discussion on the requirements of networking, by-ends from Community Partners, and County Board presence in decisions regarding Economic Development.

There was consensus of the five committee Members to begin the process of creating an RFQ for an ED Consultant. The Committee instructed Mr. Koepfel to research similar RFQ's and to bring a draft to the November meeting for discussion and review.

Chairs Report – Chair Hendrix reported

Items for the County Board - None

Items for the Committee of the Whole Meeting

- *Discussion of revised EDC Recap Strategy Ordinance*

Public Comment – None

Executive Committee – Not needed

Adjournment - Member Cesich made a motion to adjourn, second by Member Gryder. There being no objection, the Economic Development Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:02a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valarie McClain

Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary