

Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA)
Meeting Minutes
10/13/15

The meeting was held at 3:00PM in the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership's Board Room at 200 East Main Street, Suite 910.

Attendance

Brad Bishop, Andrew Briggs, Gene Donaghy, Bob Marshall, Jeff Turner

Call to Order and Introductions

Jeff Turner

Jeff Turner welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Northeast Indiana RDA.

Minutes

Jeff Turner

Jeff Turner asked for a motion to adopt the minutes from the August meeting. **Gene Donaghy motioned, Brad Bishop seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.**

RFP for Legal Services

Alan Tio

The Regional Partnership collected 8 responses to the legal services RFP. The list of candidates will be narrowed down to 2-3 firms with the goal of choosing a firm before the next RDA meeting. Bob Marshall and Jeff Turner volunteered to work with Alan Tio to development a scoring and evaluation process for choosing the firm.

Defense Industry Adjustment Program

Alan Tio

The Regional Partnership is exploring the potential of applying for the federal government's Defense Industry Adjustment Program. This program is separate from the Regional Cities Initiative, but could be another project the RDA could take a leadership role with. The program requires that a governmental agency be the applicant. The program can be used many different ways including research, data collection and asset mapping for re-application of existing technologies. Bill Andrews, a local consultant with experience in the defense industry, was present and voiced his observation that many opportunities exist in the region for technical experts in the defense industry to collaborate around innovating technologies. There is just no mechanism existing currently to pull them together and fund the groundwork. The RDA board took no formal action but was generally supportive of continuing the discussion as details become available.

Regular Meeting Schedule

The RDA Board will meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 3:00. **Gene Donaghy made the motion. Andrew Briggs seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.**

Other Business

Feedback on presentation to IEDC Strategic Review Committee – Group members who watched the presentation or were present in Indianapolis for it gave their perspectives on how the presentation flowed. Overall impression was that NEI's presentation was smooth, concise and personal.

Meeting with the State Board of Accounts – Jeff Turner, Bob Marshall and Alan Tio met with local representatives from the State Board of Accounts. They are very willing to work with the RDA Board to ensure compliance, but are also navigating the new RDA policy themselves. Andrew Briggs inquired whether ethics training is required by the State. He will follow-up with the State on that question. The group needs to determine whether or not a staff accounting person needs to be hired and if so, whether or not additional staffing requirements are needed.

Insurance Policies – The Regional Partnership inquired with their insurance provider on a quote for Directors & Officers Insurance for the RDA Board members. Follow-up needs to take place to confirm the amount needed and to finalize the transaction. Andrew Briggs offered to take the lead on that task with the Regional Partnership.

Development of Application Processes – There was a discussion about the application process for receiving funding for a Road to One Million project, if the region is one of the winners of the Regional Cities Initiative competition. The Regional Partnership will work with the IEDC to determine if a process exists. If not, the Regional Partnership will work to develop a process. Gene Donaghy and Brad Bishop volunteered to assist in this effort. It was suggested that criteria be established, if they haven't already been, to determine funding and amounts. The ROI analysis from IU, the ROI analysis from Fourth Economy Consulting and the project criteria for inclusion in the proposal were suggested as starting points.

Adjournment

Jeff Turner

With no further business to discuss, Andrew Briggs motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gene Donaghy seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00PM.

Submitted: Gene Donaghy, Secretary
