

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Clinton County Board Room
April 3, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Mike Rakers, Chairman

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman, Mike Rakers.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Committee Members Present: Mike Rakers, Holly Clark, Greg Riechman and Ann Schroeder

Also Present: Brad Knolhoff

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Cheryl Brinkmann

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Greg Riechman to approve the March 6, 2023, minutes. Ann Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tourism:

- \$2,500 for the “On the Hook” video of county highlights, and the \$3,750 sponsorship of the 2024 Crappie Fishing Tournament were both approved at the County Board meeting on March 20th. Rack cards and signs have also been approved and will be distributed.
- Holly Clark is going to check to find out how many Airbnb rentals are in the County. There are some not paying the County’s hotel/motel tax. It’s possible people don’t know the rules, but Holly is going to check to see how the tax is collected so that we can make sure the money is getting to the County.

NEW BUSINESS

Tourism:

- Conversation was held regarding a per diem for the County Tourism Representative. It was decided not to compensate at this time due to conflicts with other departments within the county.
- Motion was made by Mike Rakers to remain at the \$225 membership fee level with Discover Downstate Illinois tourism for the year 2024. Holly Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Broadband: Clinton County Broadband Representative, Cheryl Brinkmann, reported that she and Committee Chairman Mike Rakers recently attended a Broadband Town Hall Meeting at Kaskaskia College. Cheryl will also be on a Zoom webinar on April 4th. The webinar will be very similar to the Town Hall, and there will be a lot of providers on there. Mike Rakers noted that there is already Illinois money available, but the Federal money is not just a grant; it will be a 75%/25% matching fund. Other than that, not a lot is going on right now with Broadband, but Cheryl said Clinton County will be ready.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Greg Riechman. Seconded by Holly Clark. Motion carried.