

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Clinton County Board Room

August 7, 2023 – 6pm

Mike Rakers, Chairman

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Chairman, Mike Rakers.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Committee members present: Mike Rakers, Holly Clark, Greg Riechman.

Absent: Ann Schroeder.

Also Present: County Board Chairman, Brad Knolhoff.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Cheryl Brinkman, Steve Burian.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Greg Riechman to approve the July minutes. Holly Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Air BnB

No new information presented; item closed.

Broadband Update

Cheryl Brinkman continues to attend and looks for new information related to funding for Broadband grant. A multi county group has formed to look at pooling our resources and to share information to bring broadband into the underserved parts of our counties. The counties are Clinton, Bond, Fayette, Madison and Macoupin. The goal of the group is to work together as a region to bring in providers. Committee Chairman, Mike Rakers will invite Washington county to this meeting as well. Contact for Washington county is David Meyer, Board Chairman at 618-534-5921. The next meeting will be held on August 28, 2023 at 4pm on the top floor of the SMART Center in Greenville. During this meeting local Broadband providers will present their ideas on how to work with the grants to bring Broadband services to underserved communities in our counties.

Down State Illinois Update

Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Broadband provider

Steve Burian from Scream and Burian Technology Solutions is present to discuss broadband options for Clinton County. He will also be present at the regional meeting on 8/28/23. Mr. Burian gave the committee information related to towers, his equipment and how far signals can travel. Also discussed use of nodes to extend coverage. Committee also discussed obstacles to overcome presented by the IL State government such as prevailing wage and easement

restrictions. Representative Mier and Senator Plummer are aware of the issues discussed and are assisting downstate to overcome the obstacles.

Work Force Investment Board

Mike Rakers attended a meeting with this organization. There are programs and state funds available to individuals and business to promote education and entry into the work force. Mike Rakers plans to visit Central HS to talk about the program.

OTHER BUSINESS

On the hook video

This video was filmed at Carlyle Lake and another segment will be filmed on 8/11/23 at 12 Oaks Winery. This video will help promote Clinton County Tourism.

Dates for 2024 fishing tournaments are as follows: 5/4/24 – Crappy tournament, 6/1/24 – King Cat, 6/8-9/24 – Bass tournament.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Holly Clark at 7:15pm. Seconded by Greg Riechman. Motion carried.