

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Clinton County Board Room  
July 6, 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: Board Chairman Brad Knolhoff

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

Airbnb:

Holly Clark reported that she has reached out to Airbnb and VRBO and was basically told that it is against their policy to give out any information on rentals in a particular county. Mike Rakers noted that it was posted in the paper a couple times, so hopefully the ones who are not legally operating in Clinton County will notify the County.

Broadband:

Holly Clark gave a report on the meeting she attended on June 12<sup>th</sup> with the Bond County Committee regarding broadband. It was a very productive meeting, and she learned a lot. She said one of the problems we are facing is that the population is so small so no one wants to come into the area. Some companies say they will do it, but they want guaranteed income for 3 years. Illinois regulations are also hindering companies, so it was recommended to look at federal funds instead of state. They plan to meet again on July 10<sup>th</sup> and have invited representatives from more counties to gain more interest.

ORV Ordinance

The Non-Highway Vehicle Ordinance that Bond County recently passed was reviewed and discussed. It was recommended to check with Clinton County's insurance carrier to see if we would even have coverage in the event an ordinance of this type would be passed here. It was also noted that we need to lobby with the State to try to get it done at that level.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Tourism Signs

The new tourism signs need to be distributed. Everyone felt the best location to post them would be outside Clinton County in an attempt to bring tourism in.

Discover Downstate Illinois Dues

The Discover Downstate Illinois 2024 dues are set to be paid at the agreed upon level.

Clinton County's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday

A discussion was held regarding Clinton County's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday which will be in December 2024. The possibility of forming a committee and partnering with the City of Carlyle to host an event was proposed.

**ADJOURN**

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