

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Clinton County Board Room  
October 2, 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 Mike Rakers to approve the August minutes. Greg Riechman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Broadband:

A brief discussion was held regarding the status of getting Broadband in the unserved/underserved areas of Clinton County. Frontier has voiced an interest, and we're on board for them to pursue it. With matching grants, this should not cost the County much, if any. Brad Knolhoff noted that it may be beneficial if we let them know where our new radio towers will be located.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Discover Downstate Illinois Update:

Ann Schroeder distributed a media release and chart reflecting how Discover Downstate Illinois area tourism contributed to record economic growth in Illinois. The release showed that Clinton County saw an increase of 4.4% in travel expenditures, and Illinois welcomed 111 million visitors in 2022, an increase of 14 million travelers from 2021. Mike Rakers noted that invoices were received for the rack cards and for the 2-day fishing tournament next year from Discover Downstate Illinois.

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

Brad Knolhoff noted that monies have been budgeted for the County's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration in 2024.

**ADJOURN**

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