

OCEANA COUNTY
BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
100 STATE STREET, HART, MI 49420

**** MINUTES ****

Meeting Date: April 14, 2022

Present: Ms. Mary Lou Phillips, Mr. Denny Powers, Ms. Lynne Cavazos, Ms. Sara Bizon, Ms. Anne Pawli, Mr. Larry Byl, and Mr. Steve Bruch

Absent: Ms. Tracy Blamer, Mr. Norman Dodds

Others Present: Mr. Jim Draper, Peggy Whitman, Jeff Hawkins, Vaughn White

Call to Order

Ms. Sara Bizon called the meeting of the Oceana County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board (OCBRA) to order at 10:06 a.m.

General Business

Motion by Mr. Bruch for approval of Minutes from January 11th, supported by Ms. Cavazos. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Powers for approval of Agenda, supported by Mr. Byl. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Ms. Peggy Wittman stated the Our Father prayer and requested that the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act link be added to the County Brownfield website for ease of access. Mr. Jim Draper stated that he would like to see public comment at the end in case he had questions after the presentation.

Agenda Items:

Ms. Bizon welcomed Mr. Larry Byl to the Board replacing Mr. Richard Huntington. Mr. Byl proceeded with a personal introduction. He is owner/broker of Wickstra Realty and has served on the County Board of Commissioners for 20 years. He informed the board that his brother is an environmental attorney with Warner, Norcross & Judd in Grand Rapids and will be retiring in this area and, if needed, may be able to assist the Authority pro bono.

Jeff Hawkins, CEO and Founder of Envirologic presented a Power Point titled: Brownfield Redevelopment Funding Tools. A copy of the presentation is submitted along with these minutes.

Mr. Bruch suggested the Board consider submitting a letter of intent for the County ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Committee to possibly secure funds as the OCBRA has no operating budget. The letter of intent would allow the Board to determine an appropriate funding request pending the outcome of the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Assessment Grant application and submit an application prior to the ultimate deadline of July 1st, 2022.

Motion by Ms. Pawli to send a letter of intent to the ARPA Advisory Committee, supported by Ms. Cavazos. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Mr. Draper had questions in regards to a property that he previously purchased. He asked what the source was that funded the State and Federal grants. The reply was ultimately from the taxpayer. Jeff Hawkins further explained the Tax Increment Financing process.

The next meeting will be May 10, 2022 at 10:00am. in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room. Contact Ms. Sara Bizon for agenda items.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Mary Lou Phillips, Acting Secretary

Date

Sara Bizon, Chairperson

Date