



- I. **Call to Order:** The RDA Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. CST on Thursday, September 17, 2015 with Chairman Donald P. Fesko presiding.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Chairman Donald P. Fesko, Harley Snyder, Bill Joiner, Chris Campbell, Ed Glover, Phil Taillon and Randy Palmateer. Seven members were present constituting a quorum.
- III. **General Public Comment:** *None*
- IV. **Installation of New Board Member:** D. Hollenbeck, RDA Legal Counsel, formally sworn in City of Hammond appointment, Phil Taillon.
- V. **Consent Agenda:** R. Palmateer motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by B. Joiner. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

a. **Minutes: Board Meeting of August 20, 2015:** **Approved**

VI. **Actions on Recommendations from Fiscal Task Force:**

a. **Recommendations:**

- i. **Funding Applications East Chicago, Phase II:** S. Ziller reported Phase I of this project has laid the groundwork for significant private investment and additional public leveraging in Phases II and III. In order to maintain the transformational momentum, the City requests the second phase of funding in the amount of \$12,935,000 to complete the following projects:

- 1. Lakefront/Marina District construction - \$3.5M
- 2. Harbor ground routes reconstruction - \$8.3M
- 3. Bridge, ramp and intersection improvements - \$1.635M

S. Ziller asked for recommendation from the Board to approve for funding, City of East Chicago's phase II funding application in the amount of \$12,935,000.00.

B. Joiner motioned to approve the recommendation in the amount of \$12,935,000.0 with a second by H. Snyder. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- ii. **Funding Application: Munster, 45<sup>th</sup> Street Realignment and Grade Separation:** S. Ziller reported that the Town of Munster is seeking \$6M from the RDA to leverage \$28M to support a street realignment/grade separation project at the existing intersection of Calumet Avenue and 45th Street. This project aims at ending the daily gridlock in all four directions and will be a catalyst for continued and sustained economic development in this entire area as more businesses and industries relocate to Northwest Indiana and specifically Munster. This project fully intends to result in significant commercial development at this site thus providing a more attractive area for TOD investments. The Town of Munster's 45th & Calumet Avenue project is located approximately three miles northeast of the proposed Dyer/Munster West Lake commuter Station; and just over two miles southeast of the proposed Ridge Road and Manor Drive Station location. Calumet Avenue will be a primary



access route to both stations and will be closely linked to transit oriented development opportunities within the corridor. As the 45th Street project will relieve traffic congestion along the corridors; access to the proposed West Lake Stations will be enhanced increasing the potential success of transit oriented development around the stations.

The overall cost breakdown is below:

Overall Project Cost:	\$34.6M
NIRPC:	\$9.6M
State: (up to)	\$9M
Munster:	\$10M
RDA:	\$6M

S. Ziller asked the Board for recommendation to accept for funding consideration, the Town of Munster's funding application in the amount of \$6,000,000.00.

B. Joiner motioned to approve the recommendation in the amount of \$6,000,000.00 with a second by H. Snyder. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- iii. **Funding Application: North Township Trustee, CMAQ Expansion Grant Match:** S. Ziller reported to the Board that North Township requests \$250,325 from the RDA to leverage/match a CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation Air Quality) federal grant in the amount of \$1,251,625 to support a 2-year extension to fund the Dial-A-Ride expansion. North Township has successfully been a recipient of previous CMAQ funding in an initial 3-year grant which was 100% funded. The current funding request in front of the RDA requires a 20% match. The initial 3-year CMAQ grant to North Township helped secure the purchase of 4 new buses and assisted in the operations to extend hours and service more clients. Further, the initial CMAQ grant has boosted ridership to an average of 10,148 rides per quarter; this is up from the average 2,781 rides per quarter before the CMAQ funding. RDA funding for the 2-year extension for CMAQ would help to replace 2 buses in 2017 and continue to support the necessary operations. This project fits into the RDA's overall plan to re-approach a regional bus system that benefits northwest Indiana and the quality of life and place as we embark on the immense opportunities NWI has with our transportation infrastructure needs.

S. Ziller asked the Board for recommendation to accept for funding consideration, North Township Trustee's funding application in the amount of \$250,325.00.

P. Taillon motioned to approve the recommendation in the amount of \$250,325.00 with a second by R. Palmateer. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**VII. Project Status Review:**

**a. Surface Transportation:**

i. **Update:** None

**b. Shoreline Redevelopment:**



- i. **Update:** *None*
  - c. **Expansion of the Gary Airport:**
    - i. **Update:** *None*
  - d. **Economic Development:**
    - i. **Update:** *None*
  - e. **RDA Operations:**
    - i. **Update:** S. Ziller reported to the Board that the US Dept of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration awarded NICTD a \$300,000 grant to plan proposed stations along the planned West Lake extension of the South Shore Line, specifically in Munster, Dyer and Hammond.
- VIII. **Unfinished Business:**
  - i. **Update:** *None*
- IX. **New Business:**
  - i. **Update:** *None*
- X. **2015 Future Meeting Planning:** The quarterly Board structure and the monthly Working Groups are reflected in the planning calendar.
- XI. **General Public Comment:** *None*
- XII. **Adjournment:** Without further business the meeting was adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by Amy Jakubin*