

- I. **Call to Order:** The RDA Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. CST on Thursday, January 21, 2016 with Chairman Donald P. Fesko presiding.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Chairman Donald P. Fesko, Bill Joiner, Chris Campbell, Phil Taillon and Thomas Golab. Five 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 Thomas Golab as the Governor's Appointment for Porter County.
- V. **Special Recognition: Ed Glover and Tom Dabertin's Service on RDA Board:** D. Fesko recognized and publically thanked Ed. Glover, Thomas Dabertin who both served previous terms on the RDA Board of Director's.
- VI. **Election of Board Officers:** D. Hollenbeck stated that pursuant to the RDA's enabling statute and the RDA's first Board meeting of each calendar year one of the RDA's responsibilities is to organize the Board and elect from membership officers for the coming year.

P. Taillon motioned to nominate D. Fesko as Chairman, B. Joiner as Vice-Chair, and C. Campbell as Treasurer with a second by T. Golab. Hollenbeck declared the nominations as closed. All were in favor and the election of Board Officers was approved.

- VII. **Consent Agenda:** B. Joiner motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by C. Campbell. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

a. <u>Minutes: Board Meeting of October 15, 2015:</u>	<i>Approved</i>
b. <u>Reports: Buy Indiana Quarterly Report (4th QTR 2014)</u>	<i>Approved</i>
c. <u>Reports: MWE Quarterly Expenditure Compliance (4th Quarter 2014)</u>	<i>Approved</i>
d. <u>Budget: 2016 Administrative Budget</u>	<i>Approved</i>
e. <u>Budget: 2015 Administrative Budget Amendments</u>	<i>Approved</i>
f. <u>Employee Handbook: 2015 Review and Update</u>	<i>Approved</i>

- VIII. **Special Presentation: 2015 Year in Review/2016 and Beyond:** B. Hanna gave an update on the following:

- a. **2015 Highlights**

1. Secured \$180 million over 30 years from the State of Indiana for the West Lake Corridor
2. Completed the runway expansion and rail relocation project at the Gary/Chicago International Airport
3. Supported a \$13.5 million road realignment project near the Gary airport which will facilitate an expansion of Carmeuse Lime and development of an industrial park in the airport's footprint\Broke ground in East Chicago on the Promenade project at Jeorse Beach and the North Harbor retail development finished Unity Plaza and approved \$12.9 million for phase two of the revitalization initiative
4. Approved a \$317,00.00 grant to the Porter County Regional Airport to act as matching funds to secure more than \$12 million for runway and equipment improvements
5. Approved a \$6 million grant to Munster to support \$35 million street realignment project that will open the way for transit-oriented development
6. Approved a \$250,000.00 grant to assist in keeping dial-a-ride service going in North Township. The grant provides a match for \$1.25 million in federal money

7. Provided \$3.5 million to Hoist Liftrucks for their move from Illinois to East Chicago
8. Supported the relocation of American Stair from Illinois to Hammond
9. First use of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund, \$400,000 for remediation work at the Ambassador Apartments in Gary

b. New Projects

1. Future RDA Plans Include:
 - a. Development at GYY
 - b. Shoreline
 - c. West Lake Corridor
 - d. Upgrades to existing South Shore line
 - e. Transit-Oriented Development: GOAL: Rebuild the middle class in NWI

IX. 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:** *None*

X. Unfinished Business:

- i. **Update:** *None*

XI. New Business:

- i. **Update:** *None*

XII. 2016 Future Meeting Planning: The quarterly Board structure and the monthly Working Groups are reflected in the planning calendar.

XIII. General Public Comment: J. Nowacki voiced his concern regarding the RDA spending too much money.

XIV. Adjournment: Without further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Jakubin