

- I. **Call to Order:** The RDA Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. CST on Thursday, April 21, 2016 with Chairman Donald P. Fesko presiding.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Chairman Donald P. Fesko, Bill Joiner, Christopher Campbell, Phil Taillon, Thomas Golab, Milton Reed 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 Milton Reed as the City of East Chicago's appointment.
- 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 January 21, 2016:** *Approved*
  - b. **Procurement, Professional Services: Bond Counsel, BGD (Ratification)** *Approved*
  - c. **Loan Application: City of Gary, Bond Anticipation Note** *Approved*
  - d. **Funding Agreement: Pratt Industries (Ratification)** *Approved*
  - e. **Contracts: AECOM DEIS Scope Modification (Amendment #1)** *Approved*
- VI. **Actions on Recommendations from Fiscal Task Force:**
  - a. **Recommendations:**
    - i. **Funding Request, Match: Legacy Foundation, Neighborhood Spotlight Program:** B. Hanna reported to the Board that Legacy Foundation is requesting \$75,000.00 from the RDA to support the Neighborhood Spotlight initiative in the Miller neighborhood of Gary. Neighborhood Spotlight provides a framework for capacity-building, planning and implementation block by block. Legacy Foundation granted to Miller Beach Arts and Creative District as Gary-Miller's Convening Organization. Gary-Miller hired a community builder and formed The Miller Spotlight Steering Committee to help carry out their community quality of life study. In 2016, Gary Miller will have the opportunity to implement a portion of the plan that was developed. B. Hanna stated that RDA funding would be used to support the community builder for the remainder of 2015 and for a portion of the transit oriented development plan. A Transit Oriented Development Plan has already been created for Miller. Legacy Foundation will work with the local Steering Committee to connect transportation related goals from the resident led Neighborhood Transformation Plan to the already existing TOD Plan.

B. Hanna offered a recommendation to the Board to approve the RDA cash-match funding in the amount of \$75,000.00 to support the Community Builder and the remainder of the TOD plan for the Miller area of Gary.

B. Joiner motioned to approve the recommendation with a second my C. Campbell. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
    - ii. **Funding Request, Match: Double-Tracking, Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Analysis:** B. Hanna reported that NICTD is requesting \$1.6M to support the entering into a contract with HDR Engineering to perform the preliminary engineering and environmental analysis for double-tracking the South Shore line necessary to seek Core Capacity funding from the federal Department of Transportation.

He stated that the overall project cost is \$4M and NICTD would be providing a cash match in the same amount, \$1.6M and the North Central RDA would contribute \$800,000.00

B. Hanna asked the Board for recommendation to approve the RDA cash-match funding in the amount of \$1.6M to support the necessary preliminary work for double-tracking the South Shore Line to seek Core Capacity funding from the FTA.

R. Palmateer motioned to approve the recommendation with a second by B. Joiner. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- iii. **Audit: 2015 Financial Audit and 2015 Internal Control Audit:** B. Hanna was pleased to announce to the Board that London-Witte Group performed the RDA's 2015 financial audit and internal control audit. The audit did not detect any material weaknesses and offered areas for strengthening and improvement over the RDA's internal controls.

B. Hanna asked the Board to accept and approve London-Witte Group's audit report for year ending December 31, 2015.

B. Joiner motioned to accept and approve the recommendation 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: None*

**VIII. Unfinished Business:**

- i. Update: R. Palmateer reported to the Board that he opposes any funding Pratt Industries.*

**IX. New Business:**

- i. Update: None*

- X. **2016 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*