

- I. **Call to Order:** The RDA meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 with Chairman Leigh Morris presiding.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Leigh Morris, Harley Snyder, Lou Martinez, and Gus Olympidis. Carmen Fernandez arrived shortly after roll call. Five members were present constituting a quorum.
- III. **Consent Agenda:** So moved by H. Snyder with a second by L. Martinez. All were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.
- a. **Minutes of the Board Meeting of 6/17/2008:** **Approved**
- b. **Treasurer's Report:** **Approved;** all contributors are currently up-to-date with the RDA. Invoices have been sent out for payment due by July 31, 2008.
- c. **Executive Directors Report:** **Approved**
- d. **Chairman's Report:** **Approved**
- e. **RDA Website Funding Statement:** **Approved**
- IV. **Action from Board:** There was no action from the Board.
- V. **Project Status Review:**
- a. **Regional Bus Authority:** No report.
- b. **Lake Shore Redevelopment:** L. Morris reported that the RDA is working collaboratively with a variety of entities, bringing together a discussion on Friday, July 25, 2008 to clarify the role of various groups who have or may have a role in the design, approval, or administration to the improvements of the lakeshore. This meeting is to provide clarity on the direction of the RDA.
T. Sanders reported that there is continued progress at the Portage Park. They are on schedule with a ribbon cutting scheduled for mid October. The cities of Gary and East Chicago are working collaboratively. The City of Whiting's project is currently underway also. The City of Hammond is preparing a proposal and will be approaching the RDA in the near future for funding.
- c. **Expansion of the Gary/Chicago Airport:** No report.
- d. **Extension of South Shore Commuter Service:** H. Snyder reported that discussions between the RBA, NICTD, Policy Analytics LLC, NIRPC, and the RDA continue.
T. Sanders reported that the train cars are 20% complete and the first cars are due to arrive mid November.
- VI. **Other Business:**
- a. **Presentation from London Witte Group:** Jim Higgins of the London Witte Group conducted the performance audit for the RDA and reported that there is a requirement that the internal control audit recommendations to the RDA must be completed within 120 days of the reported findings. Tim Sanders, Policy Analytics, and staff have been working to complete those recommendations related to policies and procedures in a timely manner.
T. Sanders reported that he has committed to meet with Ryan Kitchell's staff on a regular basis to ensure the RDA's compliance with OMB's requirements.
- b. **Ethics Training:** S. Shabaz, coordinator of the Ethics Training reported that this is an RDA Board and staff State requirement. Ethics training must be completed by August 1, 2008.
- c. **Investment Update:** T. Sanders reported that through the investment process (reported in attachment K) there was a \$9,000 increase in dollars earned through this process.
H. Snyder suggested that the funds put into CD's should not come due all at the same time. He recommended laddering the dollars to 60, 90, and 180 day increments, to get a greater return on investment. Between now and the next 60 days management will speak with Tim Scannell to explore this option.
- d. **Strategic Plan Update:** B. Sheldrake reported that there are a lot of differences, due to the economy, reflected in the current report. This is a draft report. There are new things on the horizon, with the Marquette two plan that add additional communities that may come to the RDA with project requests. The total of development expenditures for the period CY 2006 through 2016 has grown from \$338.3

million to \$400.7 million, and neither of these spending scenarios can be accomplished with the RDA's currently available revenues. This will be re-issued to the Board before the next Board meeting.

- e. **Policy Manual:** T. Sanders reported that the staff is in the process of unifying a document that encompasses all policies and procedures of the RDA and will be presented to the Board at the August Board meeting.
- f. **Airport Consultant Advisor Update:** B. Sheldrake reported that SEH was chosen to conduct the Airport consulting services for the RDA. Matt Reardon of SEH reported that they will report on the customs and immigrations facility, crosswind runway, and ongoing infrastructure and general operations of the Airport. SEH has a letter they have prepared to submit to the Airport. There are 15 questions that need to be answered in regards to airfield, terminal land side area, and immediate opportunity presented by the Airport. Three weeks after the receipt of the answered questions, the findings will be presented to the RDA Board for consideration.
- g. **Employee Handbook:** T. Sanders reported that the employee handbook is being updated by Desila Rosetti, and she is adding several details that need to be included in the handbook.
- h. **Other:** T. Sanders reported that a preliminary Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the Airport and the Railroads dealing with the moving of the railroad track at the west end of the runway at the Airport.

VII. Public Comment: Ron Golson of the MCC asked if the Miller station will be closed, and what is the RDA's take on the closing of this station. He wants to be sure that the RDA does the due diligence with the South Shore expansion. T. Sanders stated that the RDA has not received an application regarding the Miller station, and the Board has taken no position on the closing of that station.

VIII. Adjournment: Without further business the meeting was recessed. The Transportation Summit reconvened at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jillian Huber on 7/23/08