



Medina County Port Authority
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Medina, Ohio 44256

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**Medina County Port Authority
Board Meeting
January 6, 2010**

Attendance: Port Authority Board: Ron Paydo, Laurie Price, Jim Gerspacher, Bill Frantz, Bob Kenderes, Dean Harris, Todd Gerber and Bill Hutson. MCEDC staff: Jodi Robbins, Sandy Neuman and Bethany Dentler.

Guests: Russ Schabel , Philpott Rubber; Gary Sills, Chippewa Partners; Jeff Bomberger, Squire Sanders and Dempsey; Brian Cooper, Baird; Jeff Van Loon, Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District; Karen Troxell, Armstrong; Chris Jakab, Medina County Administrator.

Mr. Paydo called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM.

Approval of minutes: Ms. Price made a motion to approve the December 4, 2009 Medina County Port Authority (MCPA) meeting minutes. Mr. Harris seconded. All were in favor.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Paydo announced that the Medina County Commissioners have reappointed Dean Harris and Bob Kenderes for an additional three year term.

Financials: Mr. Frantz reported that the financials through November, 2009 had been distributed previously for review. Mr. Hutson made a motion to approve the financial report as presented and Mr. Harris seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion of 2010 Budget: Ms. Dentler reported that the budget for 2010 closely mimics the budget presented in 2009. She pointed out that the land title for Medina County University Center had not yet been finalized and that the fiber expenses listed would not be reimbursable. Ms. Dentler stated that potential revenue and fee schedules for potential projects would be discussed and presented at the February meeting.

Commissioner's Report: none

New Business: Mr. Van Loon of the Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District presented an opportunity for the MCPA to have a seat on the Upper Chippewa Watershed project. This seat would allow a partnership with MCPA and other regional entities to help make decisions about development, conservation and agricultural choices for this area of land. This partnership would also allow the MCPA to earn grant point for future projects. Mr. Gerspacher agreed to represent the MCPA in this venture.

Old Business:

Fiber Network Committee Report: Mr. Gerspacher reported that the members of the Fiber Network Committee have met with County Commissioners and Brian Cooper of R.W. Baird, regarding financing options for the fiber project.

Mr. Cooper gave a brief outline of two options. Option 1 involves a direct non-tax revenue pledge of the county, which would be an annual appropriation for the debt service. This is the most cost- effective proposal. Either the County or Port authority could issue bonds.

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Option 2 involves a Medina County Port Authority bond issue with a pledge of the county to replenish a bond reserve fund from the non-tax revenues only in the event it is needed in a given year.

He stated that both options were simply a draft that could be "tweaked" to reflect the best interests of all parties involved.

After discussion on both options, the board concluded that option one would be most cost effective for the MCPA, Mr. Gerspacher moved to recommend option one to the Medina County Commissioners while reserving option two as an acceptable alternative. The Motion was seconded by Bill Hutson. All were in favor.

Innovation Park: Mr. Hutson made a motion to extend the marketing contract with CB Richard Ellis for an additional year. Mr. Harris seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Hutson distributed a web traffic report on Innovation Park that was provided by Kevin Malinowski. He stated that there were 123 inquiries on the site in 2009 with one potential client that decided not to continue with a potential project planned.

FTZ Status: Mr. Paydo reported that companies located in current Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ) were given an initial 5 years to activate their FTZ status, with that window closing in 2011. Ms. Dentler reported that Northeast Ohio Trade & Economic Consortium (NEOTEC), Grantee of FTZ 181, is continuing to work with these companies as well as change the management of the FTZ so that the companies would have more time to activate if they so desired, giving them an additional 5 years.

Chippewa Landing Project: Mr. Paydo stated that discussion of the Chippewa Landing portion of the meeting would take place during executive session to discuss the potential acquisition of real estate by the MCPA in the Chippewa Landing project

New Business:

Mr. Frantz made a motion to enter and Mr. Harris seconded. The executive session began at 9:07 AM.

Roll Call:

Mr. Gerspacher, yes; Mr. Gerber, yes; Mr. Hutson, yes; Mr. Kenderes, yes; Mr. Harris, yes; Ms. Price, yes; and Mr. Paydo, yes.

Mr. Gerspacher asked to be excused at 9:35

Mr. Frantz made a motion to end the executive session and Mr. Hutson seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Gerber, yes; Mr. Hutson, yes; Mr. Kenderes, yes; Mr. Harris, yes; Ms. Price, yes; and Mr. Paydo, yes.

The executive session ended at 10:16 AM.

Adjournment: Mr. Paydo adjourned the meeting at 10:20 AM.

Please Note: The next scheduled MCPA meeting is **Wednesday, February 3** at 8 a.m. in Balcony Room B (310) County Administration Building