



SIREPA

SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL ECONOMIC & PORT AUTHORITY

Minutes of the SIREPA Board of Directors
Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
In-Person at KL Megla Building or via Zoom
2495 280th St, Montrose, IA

I. **Call to Order** at 1:30 p.m. by Mike Hickey, Vice-Chair

Roll Call:

Members Present: Director Mike Hickey (Vice Chair); Director Michael Dunn (Treasurer); Director Jack Smith; Director Bob Dodds; Director Bruce Hardy; Matt Larson, Ex-Officio via Zoom

Members Absent: Director Denise Boyer (Chair), Garry Seyb, Ex-Officio, and Rick Larkin, Ex-Officio

SEIRPC Staff Present: Mike Norris; Zach James, and Sherri Jones via Zoom

Guest(s) Present: Chuck Vandenberg, Pen City Current; Dennis Fraise, Lee County Economic Development Group; Tim Fencl, Danville Telecom via Zoom

II. **Consider Approval of Agenda (Board Action):**

Smith made a motion to approve the December 7, 2021 meeting agenda after moving item V. to item III., second by Dunn. All ayes, motion carried.

III. **Lee County Fiber Project Update (Board Information):**

Norris gave a brief project overview adding that SIREPA, Danville Telco, and Lee County assembled what was described from officials close to the process as “one of, if not the best application” received in the state for State of Iowa Office of Chief Information Officer Notice of Funding Opportunity 6 funds. He also outlined the roles and responsibilities of Danville Telco and SIREPA and explained the five agreements needed and their status: 1) Lee County/SIREPA funding agreement; 2) SIREPA/Danville Telco funding agreement; 3) SIREPA/Danville Telco lease agreement; 4) Danville Telco/State of Iowa OCIO NOFO 6 grant

agreement; and 5) Danville Telco/Vantage Point services agreement. Norris said SEIRPC staff will work with the county, Danville Telco and legal counsel to draft and review documents before presenting them to the SIREPA board. Vandenberg asked when the second draw down would take place and Fencil said he doesn't have that answer yet. Fencil added that Danville Telco does have an agreement with Vantage Point, who will manage the construction company. Dunn asked if there would be an audit and Norris replied that there would be an audit a year after funds are received and closed out. Fencil said that once we have the agreements between Lee County and SIREPA and Danville Telco and SIREPA then Phase I could begin in Spring 2022. He said he plans to meet with Vantage Point sometime in March.

IV. Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes (Board Action):

Hardy made a motion to approve the August 27, 2021, Meeting Minutes, second by Smith. All ayes, motion carried.

V. Approve SEIRPC Invoice (Board Action):

Norris reviewed the invoice from SEIRPC in the amount of \$6,767.75. He said that SEIRPC appreciates the relationship with SIREPA and is pleased with the successes of purchasing the KL Megla building and the Lee County Broadband Grant. Dunn made a motion to approve invoice #2022-089 for \$6,767.75, second by Hardy. All ayes, motion carried.

VI. KL Megla Building Update (Board Information):

Norris said that in late August 2021, SIREPA closed on the KL Megla building in Montrose with help from LCEDG. LCEDG occupies the office space and coordinates any routine or unique facility needs. An opportunity with PV Pallet has created the chance for supplemental facility revenue. PV Pallet is using an office space and 10,000sf cold storage building for \$2,000 per month. The additional funds will help offset unforeseen expenses and is deposited in the joint account with LCEDG. The Career Exploration Center process continues, and the direction now is high school exploratory courses held at the KL Megla Building starting in Fall 2022 and concurrent enrollment courses structured under the Career Exploration umbrella held at the Keokuk SCC Campus. Norris thanked Dennis Fraise for his hard work and time invested in the project.

VII. Matters from the Floor (Board Information):

Norris said that the next meeting is expected to take place in late February 2022.

VIII. Adjourn (Board Action):

Smith made a motion to adjourn at 2:38 p.m., second by Dunn. All ayes, motion carried.