

**Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission
Executive Board Minutes
211 N. Gear Avenue, West Burlington, IA 52655
June 23, 2011**

Members Present: Sue Frice, Hans Trousil, Jim Howell, and Gary Folluo,
Members Absent: Brent Schleisman
Staff Present: Mike Norris, Debbie Laughlin, Kim Schisel, and Zach James
Guest Present: News Media

Call to order at 12:02 p.m.

Agenda Approval

Schisel answered some questions in regard to the financial report. Norris stated that the basement construction will be completed on time and that Trinity Consultants will begin moving in on July 7th. Norris stated that repairs and maintenance were higher due mainly to some trouble with our diesel motors. Motion by Trousil to approve the June 23, 2011 agenda, second by Folluo. All Ayes, motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Howell to accept the consent agenda, second by Trousil. All Ayes, motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Executive Director Employment Contract: Frice stated that she did not agree with having Section 11: Severance since it is paid with public money. Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of that section, resulting in the consensus to leave it in the employment contract. Norris stated that his increase was the same as staff at 1.5% increase and a special one time bonus of 1.5%. Howell stated that he would like to see the board come up with a more performance based evaluation for the Executive Director. Trousil made a motion to approve the Executive Director Employment Contract with a change to Section 2 - B changing the notice of termination prior to contract termination to (3) three months, second by Folluo. All ayes, motion carried.
2. Development Organizations Discussion: Norris stated that he wanted to make the board aware of a couple of organizations that could offer benefits for regional development in Southeast Iowa. He further stated that he could potentially see SEIRPC's role as being the administrative entity. Norris stated that Community Development Entity (CDE) is a development organization most commonly formed to invest in development projects and as a vehicle for New Market Tax Credits (NMTC). He then went over the highlights of a CDE, including that it can be for-profit or non-profit; have mission of serving low income communities, be a domestic corporation or partnership, etc. Norris stated that

3. Heartland Highway – St. Ambrose University Collaboration: Norris stated that Professor Randy Richards of St. Ambrose University (and Southeast Iowa LEAD Institute) has approached SEIRPC with a proposal for a leadership documentary/Vignette. Norris stated that SEIRPC is the entity they are focusing the documentary on in regard to the Heartland Highway Consortium (Iowa/Illinois Freight Corridor) and that some of the interviews have been done. He further stated that the documentary should be completed by the end of summer, prior to the beginning of the school year. The board expressed interest in seeing the documentary when it is complete. No action necessary.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR:

Folluo asked for an update on the Traffic Speed Indicators. James stated that they have a commitment letter ready to send out to the cities and counties, but are waiting for DOT approval before sending out, and that he expects to get that approval in July or August. James further stated that he recently attended an excellent sign workshop in Mount Pleasant that was put on by Iowa State University relating primarily to street signs.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Howell.
Second by Trousil. All Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Submitted by Debbie Laughlin

Mike Norris, Executive Director

Jim Howell, Secretary

Date: _____

Date: _____