

**MINUTES OF THE June 24, 2010 MEETING  
OF THE LORAIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**PRESENT:** Tom Ryan, Brad Coreno, Jason McDonald, Patrick Metzger, Wayne Mileti, Dick Heidecker, Cathy Becker, Keith Bailey, Don Romancak, Don Brackenhoff, and Mayor John Hunter

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Mr. Ryan then made some opening comments regarding the responsibility of the group. He said that today's meeting is to find out if there are any changes to any of the projects that have been previously submitted and to consider any new projects that will be brought to the groups attention. He turned the meeting over to Brad Coreno so that Brad could explain the purpose and the process for the CEDS.

Mr. Coreno defined and described the CEDS for the group. He mentioned that Mr. Bob Hickey is no longer the local representative for the EDA and that he has made multiple attempts to talk to his replacement. Brad was able to contact a representative from the Regional Chicago office and was told that Lorain County is not preparing an EDA funded CEDS therefore we do not have as many restrictions on the timing of when the report needs to be delivered. The CEDS paperwork still needs to be turned in by the end of the year. Brad stated that he would like to have it submitted by August or September.

Don Romancak from the City of Lorain was asked to discuss the projects that they are currently seeking funding for. The City of Lorain is attempting to have a water tower built at the former Lorain Ford Assembly plant. Lorain took over the day to day operations of the St. Joseph Community Center in January and could use financial assistance to allow them to continue managing the property. They have a number of different funding sources to assist with facility renovations, upgrades and a reduction of the overall size of the structure. This should help make the building more energy efficient and attractive to a potential purchaser. Lorain is currently involved in a Black River restoration project that will clean up the banks of the Black River near the steel mill. Mr. Romancak said that the city is still working on relocating the Black River waste water treatment plant. They have received stimulus funds for this project as well as state loans to assist with the financing.

Don Brackenhoff from the City of Elyria was the next attendee to discuss his city's projects that they would like considered for future EDA funding. The city hopes to widen Broad Street. This project has not received any funding to date but they would still like it to be considered. Elyria is working towards having the 49<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge removed that goes over Rt. 57. This is a project that they have been working on with ODOT for a number of years. Mr. Brackenhoff said

that this could be a key to making the Midway Mall area viable into the future by giving easier access to I-90 and the Ohio Turnpike. The City of Elyria wants to make infrastructure improvements (water and sewer extensions) to the Industrial Park that is located off of Leo Bullocks Industrial Parkway. They are also looking to add a Southeast sewer interceptor at Chestnut Ridge and Route 57.

Mayor Hunter from the Village of Sheffield presented his project funding requests. He said that they need to build a connector road from a commercial park to an industrial park along I-90. They have the land and the sewers are in place as well as the electrical systems. They need help putting the 1 mile roadway in. He estimated the project to be \$2.1 million dollars and stated that it would open up an additional 200 acres of land for development. Mayor Hunter said that 38% of the Village is still on septic systems. He told the group that they are only 34 feet away from Lorain's sewer system but they would have to go 3.5 miles to get to their own connection spot within the village.

Mr. Brackenhoff requested that Brad Coreno find last years EDA awards report and deliver a copy to him. He said that it would be beneficial to find out who qualified for these funds and what approach they used to be selected.

Mr. Ryan mentioned that the County does not have a website that lists the current projects. He feels that it would be a good thing to have a website to support CEDS and show visibility to the community. Mr. Ryan asked for a motion to have a website created. Mayor Hunter made the motion, second by Mr. Heidecker. All were in favor.

Mr. Heidecker from Columbia Township talked to the group about the EPA storm water mandates that are being implemented. He warned that Phase II was going to be difficult and that Phase III would be even more so. He said that we all need to work together on this. Mayor Hunter agreed and said that he has been working with other Mayors on putting storm water studies in place to create a uniform rules and regulations for the entire county.

Wayne Mileti from the County Engineer's office said that he will send a list of their projects over the Mr. Coreno. Cathy Becker of North Ridgeville and Keith Bailey of the Lorain County Solid Waste Management department were both in attendance but didn't make any specific funding requests. Brad asked that the members send their requests to him via email. He told everyone that in the next meeting they will cover the ideas being considered.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm