

# **Warren County Port Authority**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**August 29, 2012**

### **Opening:**

The meeting of the Warren County Port Authority was called to order at 12:20 pm on August 29, 2012 at ADVICS Manufacturing, Ohio's Conference Room, by Warren County Port Authority Chairman Greg Sample.

### **Present:**

**Warren County Port Authority Board Members:** Mr. Bolton, Mr. Gully, Mr. Sample and Mr. Wilson

**Warren County Economic Development Staff:** Martin Russell

### **Other Attendees:**

Larry Hollingshead – Area Progress Council and other Warren County Boards

#### **A. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda and additional resources were distributed to the board for review and consideration without disapproval.

#### **B. Approval of Minutes**

- **No minutes were submitted for approval**

#### **C. Executive Director's Report**

- Executive Director Martin Russell gave a brief update on projects he was involved in on behalf of the Port Board. Mr. Russell will be presenting in early September at the 2012 Ohio Freight Conference regarding Franklin Yards. The presentation will discuss public-private partnerships and will be co-presented by Jon Hartman of Franklin Yards and Caleb Bell of Bricker & Eckler. Mr. Russell also discussed the progress of the Warren County SBDC. The Advisory Board has nominated and voted on an Executive Board to craft "by-laws" for the organization. The Executive Board has met several times and is getting ready to present their progress in early September.

#### **D. Old Business**

- Executive Director Martin Russell informed the Board regarding the latest happenings involving the VH Monroe Development (Corridor 75 Park) in Monroe. Since the last Port meeting, the sheriff's sale has occurred and only one bidder was present. IDI will be the new owner of the Corridor 75 Park. Mr. Russell will work to establish a meeting with area representatives of IDI to better determine their plans for the Park moving forward.

- Executive Director Martin Russell gave the Board an update on additional prospects that were considering a partnership with the Port Authority. Staff will continue to update Board members on the progress of each project and if/when action from the Board is required to move the project forward.

#### **E. New Business**

- Executive Director Martin Russell presented a potential opportunity to the Port Board regarding the concept of a Warren County Chamber “Alliance”. Realized from the growth of the Warren County SBDC, persons involved in the SBDC, who also are members of area chambers, have requested assistance from the Port in offering a structure where area chambers can work better together. While there is ongoing dialogue about this specific topic, it has come to staff’s attention that one chamber in may need some financial assistance to remain open. In exchange for financial aid in the form of a loan, this chamber would agree (amongst other things) to be the first joining “member” of the “Alliance” concept. The Board expressed its interest in creating an atmosphere to see an “Alliance” formed, but did not want to be seen as an entity that assisted one chamber over another. The Board requested staff to continue working on this initiative and that the Port would be willing to provide financial assistance to an overarching structure that brought all chambers together. However, the Board asked staff to inform this individual chamber that they would not be able to assist their specific need.

#### **F. Executive Session**

- **None was required**

#### **Adjournment:**

At 1:40 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Gully and seconded by Mr. Wilson to adjourn the meeting of the Warren County Port Authority. The next Warren County Port Authority meeting will be scheduled on the Port’s new quarterly system unless otherwise deemed necessary before due to project/prospect timelines.

Minutes submitted by: Martin Russell

Approved by: Martin Russell