

**Leavenworth County Port Authority
Board of Directors
16 April 2024
Noon – Zoom/In-Person**

Attendees: Lisa Haack, Diana Dodd, Chris Donnelly, Dan Clemons, Doug Schimke, John Richmeier, Tom Cole, Paul Kramer, Jeremy Greenamyre, David Schroeder, Greg Kaaz, Josh Hoppes, Krystal Voth, George Brajkovic, Penny Holler

Chris called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Chris amended item five on the agenda to “finalize chair and vice chair.”

Motion to approve the March minutes by Dan Clemons and seconded by David Schroeder. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the March financial reports by Doug Schimke and seconded by David Schroeder. Motion carried.

LCDC Report:

Lisa gave the LCDC report, which included new and ongoing projects:

- Project Awake – did not submit – looking for an existing, rail-served building on 40 acres.
- Project Eco Track – did not submit – looking for 15 – 20 acres near the I-35 corridor.
- Real Estate inquiry from a real estate agent inquiring about the available lots in the UHBC. Info provided.
- Project River – ongoing – company is working with state and county.
- Project Superior – Vetting another path – Four developer-controlled sites that will build a building for them. – Originally asked for an existing building of 100 – 200K sf or 25 acres on a greenfield site for a distribution center. LBTP was submitted.
- Project KCDC – moving very slowly – submitted LBTP – IT company looking for 80 acres with a high-power need.

Marketing events/trips:

- KC tech council – topic data centers
- KC Crew Project Tour
- LV County Tour with Samantha Jefferson, KCADC
- Team KS Marketing Trip to Arizona – 25 site selectors, 5 KS counties, and Commerce Team
- IAMC Conference in Greenville, SC
- KCADC Women in Development 4.17
- SEDC Meet the Consultants Conference – GA 4/29
- Presentations: 4/16 City of Leavenworth, 4/24 Chamber’s Economic Development Overview

Board Terms & Officers:

- Doug Schimke indicated willingness to be Chair.
- David Schroeder volunteered to be Vice Chair. Greg moved to make David vice chair, and Dan seconded. Motion carried.
- David clarified that it is a two-year term.
- Paul clarified that Greg Kaaz was reappointed by the city.
- David requested a spreadsheet with positions and terms in the packet each month.
- Acknowledgement of Tom Cole as new board member. Will get the appointment letter from the county.

Progress 2024 Article Update: Diana said the article will go out in the paper on Saturday. Several copies will be given to LCDC. Chris asked that a digital copy be distributed if available.

Regional Transportation Plan Update: Greg Kaaz - Mentioned a MARC study he feels the county and LV, Lansing, and Basehor should participate in. Spoke about a river crossing study between Leavenworth and Johnson counties. Greg will reach out to Bill Noll at the county.

Industrial Site Committee Update: Lisa - Education portion is complete. The committee is now identifying potential properties and beginning the scoring process.

Long Term Funding – Chris and Greg – Ideas have been pitched. Greg will schedule another group meeting soon. Needs a Basehor rep for the committee. Feels Leavenworth/Lansing are well represented. Chris represents Tonganoxie but would like another Tonganoxie rep. If the LCPA pursues a mil levy vote, ballots would go out around March 2025. Jeremy and Lisa to look at the commitments of LCDC investors who might be able to commit more. Jeremy pointed out that the investor committee should tackle that. Chris questioned whether the port authority is properly structured to do what it is supposed to do. He suggests getting input from legal counsel before we put a mil levy question on the ballot.

Tom Cole and David Schroeder suggested checking with the other port authority in Kansas and seeing how they are structured.

Panasonic Impact: General compliments on the LCDC quarterly luncheon.

Affiliated partner updates given.

After the city of Leavenworth's update, Paul expressed his gratitude for the Port Authority's and LCDC's work during his tenure with the city and said how he has enjoyed working with the two groups.

Adjourned at 1:01 PM.