Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners Public Hearing for the Review of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program 1:30 p.m. – Thursday, July 9, 2020 County Board Room – Perry County Government Building

OPENING

Chairman Dallas Bigham called the hearing to order at 1:30 p.m.

County Clerk Beth Lipe called the roll. The following members answered the call of the roll: Commissioner Susan Hepp, Commissioner Bobby Kelly and Chairman Dallas Bigham were all present.

The following department heads were also present: Zoning Administrator Becky Tracy and Treasurer Mary Jane Craft.

PUBLIC HEARING

Zoning Administrator Becky Tracy – I'm going to give you a brief overview of where this money is coming from and then we'll see if you have any questions and then I'm going to give you a brief overview of Double Eagle, Inc.

In 2019, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity allocated $4,000,000.00 for economic development funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program. With the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus and its detrimental impact on small businesses, the State is using its option to adjust allocations to address specific needs to benefit Illinois' non-entitlement communities in case of unforeseen circumstances, as included in the Consolidated and Action Plans. These allocations, along with unspent and recaptured funds from previous allocations has been made eligible in a total of $20,000,000.00 for the Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program.

The County of Perry is applying on behalf of Double Eagle, Inc., doing business as Red Hawk Golf Course, which is located in the unincorporated area of the County. The activities that will be undertaken with grant funding, if approved, will be working capital to assist with losses sustained during the last few months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Are there any comments? Any questions about how the grant program works? Mary Jane do you have any questions about it?

Treasurer Craft – No, not now.

Zoning Administrator Tracy – Ok, it will be run through, the way that I understand it, if Red Hawk is given the grant, the money will come from DECEO to the County to Red Hawk. So we will have to open an account for it, DECEO suggested that Mary Jane just open a checking account and don't order any checks for it, just use counter checks since there won't be many that we will have to write. Red Hawk will turn in their information to us, we will then turn it over to the State and the State will send the money to us, we will send it to Red Hawk and then there will be some reporting to do.

Treasurer Craft – Well really and truly we won't need any checks because with our CIC system, we have checks already. The only thing we may need are deposit slips possibly.

Zoning Administrator Tracy – Ok, and we shouldn't need that because I think it will go directly in there, won't it? From what I understand, we will get more information about how that will work once the grant is approved. As far as how we have to do that. But, I just want you all to understand that it will be facilitated through the County. There is a lot of documentation that Dallas will have to sign. There is some that Dan will have to sign, there is some that Beth will have to sign and there is some that Mary Jane and I think there's one that I have to sign too. Ok, if there isn't any other questions about that.

Double Eagle, Inc., doing business as Red Hawk Golf Course is a locally owned golf course that, when in season, employs 10 to 15 people and is seeking working capital after experiencing financial hardship over the last few months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The budget submitted seeks $25,000.00 in grant funding and will assist with employee salaries, utilities and other working capital.

Are there any comments on that?

Chairman Bigham – Were all these grants, all $25,000.00 or were they different amounts?

Zoning Administrator Tracy – There was one in Du Quoin that was for $15,000.00. If you go on that site, you can google Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program, it's going to come up and when you go there, there is a link you can go to to see who all has, they are broke down by County and I think there were 3 businesses in Du Quoin who have already received and I want to say one of them got $15,000.00 so I think it depends on the business. I don't know if they applied for $25,000.00 and only got $15,000.00, I don't know.

Chairman Bigham – That was my next question. You put in for $25,000.00, you might get $12,000.00.

Zoning Administrator Tracy – My understanding with this is it will be based on their budget and they want it to be focused on payroll, I do know that. And, the other thing with this, it is for non-essential businesses. Any other questions? We are still working on it, it's not going to go out today. Michelle and I are working together, I also have some technical questions for DECEO so my goal is for this to go out next week. Dallas, I will try to get all of your signatures today.

Chairman Bigham – It's on the regular agenda today for the board meeting.

Zoning Administrator – That's just the resolution.

Chairman Bigham – If there are no other questions, we can close the Public Hearing. May I have a motion to do so?

Commissioner Kelly moved the Board adjourn the Public Hearing, Commissioner Hepp seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Submitted:

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BETH LIPE, County Clerk
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners
County of Perry, State of Illinois
July 9, 2020

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss.
COUNTY OF PERRY)

I, Beth Lipe, County Clerk of Perry County, Ilinois, do hereby certify that I am the keeper of records, files and seal of said County. I do further certify that the foregoing is a true, complete and accurate copy of the Minutes of the Public Hearing dated July 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Perry at my office in Pinckneyville, Illinois this 9th day of July, 2020.

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Beth Lipe, County Clerk

(SEAL)