

NATURAL RESOURCES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (NRED) BOARD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021 4:30 PM

Carbondale Civic Center, Room 103

Call to Order (4:30 PM)

Members Present: Carrier, Chapman, Layne, Legan and Maxwell

Members Absent: Beckman and Mulholland

Also present: Anthony Alonzi

Approval of Minutes

- I. [21-6599](#) Approval of November 17, 2021 Minutes
Carrier commented after the motion that he felt the minutes did not represent what actually happened during the meetings. Maxwell asked if there was anything specific and Carrier commented that there was nothing in particular, just that he felt they should be more detailed. A motion was made by Carbondale City Planner Maxwell, seconded by Legan, to approve the November 17, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Communications

It was noted that the Built Environment Action Team was accepting suggestions from cyclists for recreational route maps. Maxwell noted she was on the committee and that she would relay information from the committee at a later date.

Old Business

- II. [21-6600](#) GIS Project Discussion
Maxwell introduced Anthony Alonzi to the Board, noting he was the GIS representative for Carbondale. He commented that he had been doing research on different GIS programs to figure out the best option for the GIS map the NRED Board was working to create with Jackson County natural resource information. His specific questions were:
- What specific GIS license the county has access too? If ArcGIS Pro then you have access to ArcGIS Online.
 - What is the source of the data, and how much data cleaning is needed to be done?
 - Where did you want to host the data? my suggestion was through ArcGIS Online, an Esri product.
 - What specifically you want displayed, such as trail lengths, names, difficulty, accessibility etc...?

Chapman asked if it would be possible for the County's IT person to attend the next NRED meeting to discuss these questions, noting that he would be able to describe what the County currently has to offer for GIS and what is available for NRED to use. Maxwell commented that she hoped he would know of anyone who would be willing to help create the map layers and

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work with the system. Rodewald asked if there would be a cost issue and what the timeframe would be to complete something like this. Alonzi commented that any cost issues would be associated with the licensing of the GIS system, which IT would have to speak to. He also commented that it could take anywhere from one day to one week to complete noting that one layer of information could be added at a time or multiple, depending on what was wanted.

The Board continued the discussion.

Carrier commented he felt that the Board talked about this same topic at every meeting. He asked which departments in the County used a GIS system. It was noted that Assessments and 911 used the system. Maxwell and Rodewald agreed that this was something that would take some time to complete. Legan suggested creating a proposal and taking it to the County Board if funding was needed.

The Board continued discussing the topic.

Carrier commented that he felt after the last meeting that the Board was supposed to narrow down the focus of the meetings and define a focus for itself. He noted that he wasn't sure if anyone else had came up with a plan, but that he came up with an outline and asked to share it with the group. As he was passing around his outline, Maxwell asked if the group could do introductions since there was a new board member she did not know.

The group did introductions and continued with the meeting.

Carrier began discussing his outline and that he felt the current land manager document that the Board had been working on should be expanded to include actual land manager contact information, the needs of each area, and the resources available to those areas. Maxwell agreed adding items that included backlogged maintenance, expansion access ideas, and partnership opportunities. Chapman interjected that any grants available would not be able to be received by the NRED Board, that it would actually be the park itself or the entity that applied for the grant. There was a long discussion between Maxwell, Carrier, and Chapman concerning appointments to the NRED Board, working toward the same goals, and what the group should be advocating for with Carrier commenting that the outdoor recreation areas in Jackson County were horrible.

Carrier then commented that he assumed the Board had agreed to work on the database and the GIS map. Legan and Maxwell both noted that there were no need for by-laws but that the Board needed a mission statement. The group continued to discuss Carrier's outline and agreed to the purpose statement which reads "The purpose of the Jackson County Natural Resources Development Board is to support the stewardship, development, and promotion of the natural resources economic development of Jackson County, IL". The Board then agreed to taking the rest of Carrier's outline home and discussing it at the next meeting.

Carrier noted it would be a good idea if the group included in their land manager document information on businesses that were directly or indirectly related to the Jackson County recreation economy such as cabins, vacation rentals, restaurants, etc. The Board agreed.

A motion was made by Carbondale City Planner Maxwell, seconded by Chapman, to approve Carrier's purpose statement for the Board which will read "The purpose of the Jackson County Natural Resources Development Board is to support the stewardship, development, and promotion of the natural resources economic development of Jackson County, IL". The motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. [21-6601](#)

Election of New Chair

The Board was asked if they would like to make nominations for a new chair or wait until they had a full board present at the next meeting. Carrier nominated Maxwell, but she commented that she had concerns about being able to devote the proper amount of time to the position. Both Carrier and Legan commented that they were not interested in the position. Maxwell commented that she would be ok accepting the nomination if the Board was willing to work

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with her and support her in the position. Legan commented that Maxwell could begin assigning tasks to the Board members to help with supporting her as chair.

A motion was made by Carrier, seconded by Chapman, to approve Molly Maxwell as the new Natural Resources Economic Development Board Chair. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business

Adjourn (5:46 PM)

Legan moved and Chapman seconded to adjourn, motion carried.