

NATURAL RESOURCES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (NRED) BOARD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022 4:30 PM

121 South Illinois Ave

Carbondale, IL 62901

Call to Order (4:46 PM)

Members Present: Carrier, Legan, Maxwell, Mulholland and Rodewald

Also present: CJ Calandro, Anthony Henson, Brian Chapman

Approval of Minutes

- I. [22-7026](#) Approval of March 23, 2022 Minutes
A motion was made by Carbondale City Planner Maxwell, seconded by Carrier, to approve the March 23, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Communications

Old Business

- II. [22-7027](#) Recreational Land Inventory
Maxwell gave a history of the Recreational Land Inventory and mentioned that it was going to be used to keep a record of the land inventory in Jackson County. She also mentioned creating a GIS mapping and using the Land Inventory to help create the GIS map. Carrier mentioned that the Inventory and the GIS map could be made public and could be used for economic development. Maxwell also mentioned that the data could be used when applying for grants.
- III. [22-7028](#) GIS Project
The board discussed GIS (what was needed and which parties would be involved) including putting together a program for citizens and groups to use, identifying who would manage and build the database, and how to access the data. Carrier mentioned that the board wants to use this for natural resources, but noted that it could be used for so much more by other individuals. Henson ended the discussion noting that the board would proceed on the internal needs assessment and work from there.
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New Business

- IV. [22-7029](#) Election of NRED Advisory Board Chairperson
Henson asked for nominations for the NRED chairperson. Carrier nominated Legan to be the NRED chairperson.
A motion was made by Carrier, seconded by Carbondale City Planner Maxwell, to approve Greg Legan as the NRED chairperson. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
- V. [22-7030](#) Discussion of County Board Chair Election and Subsequent Communication
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Calandro introduced himself and asked what questions the NRED board had of him and the County Board. Legan asked what the County wants to see accomplished from the NRED board. Calandro talked about prioritizing work and working together as a group. Carrier offered feedback but also discussed the need for paid staff to do the work and mentioned that he felt confident with Henson on board to help organize the workload. Calandro suggested to think about the projects that need completed, work with Henson and the County Administrator, and then the project could be taken to the Real Property committee and finally to the full County Board. Legan asked about the chain of command for getting projects to the full County Board. Maxwell offered suggestions for the next board focus including using the land inventory survey and prioritizing the needs listed on the survey. Rodewald questioned the different boards and the grants process and how NRED would go about applying and utilizing the grants. Mulholland questioned who managed Johnson Creek. Carrier ended the discussion by explaining to the board how the Shawnee Forest is managed and how the NRED board could work on projects associated with the forest.

VI. [22-7031](#)

Discussion of Tourism Funding

The County Administrator discussed tourism funding and her idea to allocate funding in a different way versus the current way of funding the tourism bureaus in the County. She noted to have this drafted and presented to the full Board in June/July to hopefully be approved before budgeting time. Maxwell suggested having NRED work with the tourism boards to help with their needs and make their jobs easier. Carrier commented that NRED should focus on return on investments, noting that NRED should either invest in infrastructure or events with the tourism funding.

VII. [22-7032](#)

Discussion of Broadband Project

Chapman explained to the NRED board the County's Broadband project and how broadband could be worked into NRED projects, for example helping to get wireless connectivity at parks.

Adjourn

Mulholland moved and Maxwell seconded to adjourn, motion carried.