

Natural Resources Economic Development Board Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2025 5:30 PM
Carbondale Main Street, 121 S. Illinois Ave. Carbondale, IL 62901

Call to Order

(5:30pm)

Present: Legan, Mulholland, Maxwell, Carrier, Brown, Apgar

Absent: McMorrow-Hunter

Public Comment

Approval of Minutes

I. 2025-234 Approval of January 27, 2025, Minutes

A motion was made by Carrier, seconded by Brown, to approve the January 27, 2025, Minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Communication

Reports

Old Business

II. 2025-235 IDNR/NRED Memorandum of Agreement

Legan commented on the memorandum of agreement and his attempt to follow up with Calvin while in Springfield. He noted that he was going to let the topic lie until something happened, since it has been about a year it has been with legal. Maxwell questioned whether regular meetings could start outside the MOU being approved. Legan discussed with the Board the regional land manager's availability and the possibility of him attending a future NRED meeting to discuss the possibility of a bike route from Pinckneyville to Jackson County. The Board also quickly discussed a transit study.

III. 2025-236 JAX Recreational Bus Route

No update given this month.

New Business

IV. 2025-237 Outdoor Recreation Summit-Touch of Nature

Legan commented that Touch of Nature was having an Outdoor Recreation Summit on March 28. He discussed with the Board what topics were covered at last year's meeting. Carrier commented that he had applied to speak about the Illinois Climbers Association and the Holy Boulders Claiming area. He asked if there were any topics the group would like him to mention in his proposal.

V. 2025-238 Approval of Miscellaneous Expenses

There were no expenses to approve this month. Legan shared with the Board that he had a discussion with the Jackson County Administrator to discuss NRED requesting \$5K in the FY26 County Budget. Legan also mentioned that he spoke with the new Jackson Growth Alliance (JGA) chair regarding putting together a proposal for funding through JGA.

Good and Welfare

The Board discussed that Jackson Growth Alliance was designed for economic development in the business sense of Jackson County and what the group could do to relay their vision for potential recreation projects.

Adjourn

(5:45pm)

A motion was made by Mulholland, seconded by Brown, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.