

Natural Resources Economic Development Board Meeting
Monday, May 19, 2025 5:30 PM
Carbondale Main Street, 121 S. Illinois Ave. Carbondale, IL 62901

Call to Order

(5:30pm)

Present: Greg Legan, Brandon Brown, Blake Mulholland, Molly Maxwell

Absent: Gary Apgar, Amy McMorrow-Hunter, Phillip Carrier

Also Present: Ron Clark

Approval of Minutes

I. 2025-561 Approval of April 28, 2025, Minutes

One mistake was made under Adjournment in the meeting minutes. Maxwell pointed out that Phillips should be changed to Carrier. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Mulholland, to approve the April 28, 2025, Minutes with the name change edit mentioned above. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Communication

Reports

Old Business

II. 2025-562 Recreational Bus Route

Legan and Maxwell commented on the success of the ride-along for the new recreational bus route and the enthusiasm from stakeholders. They also discussed the planned trial run at the end of the month with a tentative start date of the weekend when Poplar Camp Beach opens. A discussion was had regarding the challenges with the bus route, including not being able to turn around at Castle Park. Legan commented that the bus route will be traceable via an app, which will allow people to know when the bus is coming. Maxwell mentioned the need for constant promotion to inform people about the bus route, including the involvement of the Carbondale's PR team and the potential addition of a page on JAX's website.

New Business

III. 2025-563 Biochar Local Opportunities

This agenda item was not discussed this month.

Mulholland introduced Ron Clark who helps maintain Turkey Bayou. Clark spoke about the volunteer efforts to maintain the campground, including tables, grills, and gravel paths. He also

mentioned ongoing projects such as a horseshoe pit and the challenges of maintaining the campground due to flooding and equipment issues. Clark discussed with the group about potential cooperation to improve the boat ramp at Turkey Bayou. Legan commented that Clark should speak with Chad from the Forest Service to get feedback about the county's possible involvement and bring that information back to the NRED board.

IV. 2025-564 Approval of Miscellaneous Expenses

No expenses to approve this month.

Good and Welfare

Adjourn

(6:07pm)

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

[MIN_SIGNATURES]