

**Minutes of the  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Western Illinois Economic Development Authority  
August 8, 2019  
Jacksonville, Illinois**

**Members Present**

Bob Bucher, Fulton County  
Tiffany Cole, Governor's Appointment  
Terry Denison, Morgan County  
Sal Garza, DCEO Designee  
Robin Johnson, Warren County  
Mike McLaughlin, Adams County  
Terry Pope, Hancock County  
Shawn Rennecker, Pike County  
Bob Schafer, Scott County  
L. Scott Schwerer, McDonough County  
Ed Teefey, Brown County  
Ken Walker, Mason County

**Members Absent**

H. O. Brownback, Cass County  
Monte Graham, Governor's Appointment  
Brad Flatt, Chair, Henderson County  
Mac McClland, Chair, Schuyler County

**Others Present**

Andrew Hamilton, Executive Director  
Warren Ribley, Assistant Executive Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of Ordinance 19-007. Following discussion, the motion carried. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2019 meeting and all previous meetings. Following discussion, the motion carried. The Treasurer's Report was suspended.

**Ordinance No: 19-005 – An Ordinance to Add Territory to the WIEZ on behalf of Rushville Fitness Center.** Staff presented the project. The Rushville Fitness and Community Center is planning a \$5.7 million project to build a new fitness center in Rushville (Schuyler County) Illinois that will create and retain 14 full-time equivalent jobs.

Thereupon, Vice-Chairman Bucher presented and read Ordinance No: 19-005. It was moved by Member Walker and seconded by Member Dennison to approve the Ordinance as presented. Discussion took place. Vice-Chairman Bucher then directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt the ordinance. Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Bob Bucher, Tiffany Cole, Terry Denison, Sal Garza, Robin Johnson, Mike McLaughlin, Terry Pope, Shawn Rennecker, Bob Schafer, L. Scott Schwerer, Ed Teefey and Ken Walker. The following members voted NAY: None. The following members voted PRESENT: None. The following members were ABSENT: H. O. Brownback, Monte Graham, Brad Flatt and Mac McClland. WHEREUPON, Vice-Chairman Bucher

declared the motion carried, the ordinance adopted, and did direct the Secretary to record the same in full in the records of the Authority.

**Ordinance No: 19-006 – An Ordinance to Add Territory to the WIEZ on behalf of Illinois Winds, LLC.** Staff presented the project. Illinois Winds LLC (Panther Creek Wind/Affinity Wind/Prairie Power) is planning an \$71 million project to build a 36-megawatt wind facility in Pike County, Illinois that will create 10 full-time equivalent jobs. Thereupon, Vice-Chairman Bucher presented and read Ordinance No: 19-006. It was moved by Member Dennison and seconded by Member Schafer to approve the Ordinance as presented. Discussion took place. Vice-Chairman Bucher then directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt the ordinance. Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Bob Bucher, Tiffany Cole, Terry Denison, Sal Garza, Robin Johnson, Mike McLaughlin, Terry Pope, Shawn Rennecker, Bob Schafer, L. Scott Schwerer, Ed Teefey and Ken Walker. The following members voted NAY: None. The following members voted PRESENT: None. The following members were ABSENT: H. O. Brownback, Monte Graham, Brad Flatt and Mac McClland. WHEREUPON, Vice-Chairman Bucher declared the motion carried, the ordinance adopted, and did direct the Secretary to record the same in full in the records of the Authority.

**Ordinance No: 19-007 – An Ordinance to Add Territory to the WIEZ on behalf of Natures Grace & Wellness.** Staff presented the project. Natures Grace and Wellness LLC is planning an \$8.3 million expansion to its cannabis cultivation facility in Vermont, Fulton County, Illinois. This expansion will be adjacent to its current property that already is included in the WIEDA enterprise zone. This expansion will add adjacent territory in McDonough County. Natures Grace and Wellness plans to expand its current buildings by adding approximately 100,000 square feet. The expansion will consist of 8 greenhouses, commercial kitchen, commercial labs and other production areas. Cannabis products, including flower and infused products will be produced out of the expansion. Natures Grace and Wellness intends to purchase security cameras, commercial lab equipment, processing equipment, HVAC equipment and commercial kitchen equipment. Natures Grace and Wellness will maintain 100% occupancy of the building. The project is expected to create 30-100 construction jobs and 50-100 full-time jobs. They are requesting the WIEZ be expanded to assist on their project.

Thereupon, Vice-Chairman Bucher presented and read Ordinance No: 19-007. It was moved by Member Rennecker and seconded by Member Walker to approve the Ordinance as presented. Discussion took place. Vice-Chairman Bucher then directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt the ordinance. Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Bob Bucher, Tiffany Cole, Terry Denison, Sal Garza, Robin Johnson, Mike McLaughlin, Terry Pope, Shawn Rennecker, Bob Schafer, L. Scott Schwerer, Ed Teefey and Ken Walker. The following members voted NAY: None. The following members voted PRESENT: None. The following members were ABSENT: H. O. Brownback, Monte Graham, Brad Flatt and Mac McClland. WHEREUPON, Vice-Chairman Bucher declared the motion carried, the ordinance adopted, and did direct the Secretary to record the same in full in the records of the Authority.

With no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Following discussion, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike McLaughlin, Secretary