



Economic Development Group of Wabash County

June/July 2009

Dedicated to Creating Economic and Employment Opportunities for the People and Businesses of Wabash County.

EDG Launches Members Only Website Area

At EDG nothing is more important to us than our members guidance and support. We spend a lot of time thinking of ways that our members can be involved in the daily in and outs of EDG business. We realize that it's not always easy for members to find the time to give us their opinion but we strive to make it as easy as possible. One way that we have decided to go about this is creating a section especially for EDG Members on our website.

In this new "Members Only" section members will be able to get messages straight from the Desk of the President of EDG, as well as his assistant. They will also be able to view board packets and the most up-to-date list of EDG members and contact info. There will be areas for members to make comments and ask questions about upcoming events and projects.

How can current members get into this area? It's easy! Members just need to visit our website at www.edgwc.com and click on the "Members Only" button on the top right side of the screen. This will take them to a page where they can create an account and their own personal password. After the account and password has been approved they are free to visit as often as they like. All accounts will reset at the first of the year and will be available again once annual dues are paid.

If you are not a member and are interested to see what the site has to offer please give us a call to get 2009 pro-rated pricing on a membership! 1-260-563-5258

EDG Board of Directors

Skip Daughtry, Chair

Ken Perkins, Vice Chair

Dan Hannaford, Secretary

Ralph Naragon, Treasurer

Robert Vanlandingham

Jeff Kellam

Rob Pearson

Ron Kerby

Brian Hauptert

Actions Of The Board

June

Economic Development Group's monthly board meeting was held on June 16th at 7:30 am in the EDG Board Room. The board reviewed minutes from the May Board Meeting, monthly financial reports, loan portfolio and the President's Report.

There were no New Business Items (NBI) to approve.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 am.

July

Economic Development Group's monthly board meeting was held on July 9th at 7:30 am in the EDG Board Room. The board reviewed minutes from the June Board Meeting, monthly financial reports, loan portfolio and the President's Report.

There were no New Business Items (NBI) to approve.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 am.

President's Report June / July 2009



William S.
Konyha
President

These items were reported on by the President:

***Cinergy MetroNet**— EDG concluded an agreement for Cinergy MetroNet to acquire the building at 146 West Market Street. The company will announce a capital investment of up to \$20 million in Wabash County. They have nearly completed engineering and will begin to lay fiber optic lines in Wabash and North Manchester this summer. Broad Band service will be available to every home and business in the City of Wabash and the Town of North Manchester. They will also provide service in Huntington. Wabash will have the facility from which all three communities will be managed. Wabash will have a retail office as will North Manchester.

*** Ford Meter Box**— The ordinance will be presented to City Council on July 13. We will ask them to suspend their rules and to do two readings in one night to enable the project to move forward as rapidly as possible. The Economic Development Commission will meet at 2:00 on the 13th and consider an inducement resolution to provide up to \$1,200,00 of financing via an economic development bond. Ford Meter Box will purchase the bonds themselves. At 3:00 on the 13 the Economic Redevelopment Commission will meet to consider a resolution pledging the TIF proceeds to retire the economic development bonds. This should complete the process and enable us to issue and close the bonds.

***Chicago Industrial Property Conference**—The President traveled to Chicago with NIPSCO for the two day conference. The President along with along with representatives from NIPSCO and IEDC had dinner with two site selectors and then attended the conference. This is part of EDG's ongoing external marketing program; The President will also be attending the fall conference. During the conference EDG made a lot of contact with nationwide site selectors one of whom plans to travel to Wabash later in 2009.

***General Motors**— The President wrote to the CEO of General Motors on behalf of our GM Dealers in support of our two local GM dealers, Dorais and Denney Motor Sales. He also suggested that many other community leaders also send letters of support to GM.

***North East Indiana Regional Partnership**— The President is meeting for dinner with NEIRP and with two site selectors. NEIRP requested that he attend the meeting as Chair of the LEDO Council and they also requested that he bring a local business to talk with them about turnover, government support, EDG support, workforce, etc. The President invited Ed Snyder from Living Essentials.

***Living Essentials**— Living Essentials now employs 220 people in Wabash at the manufacturing facility and at the new distribution center. They are making 1.3 million bottles a day and are requesting tax abatement for equipment for 2 more bottling lines. The equipment will total about \$2.8 million and will enable them to employ 25-50 additional people. EDG is planning a dedication ceremony and community celebration. EDG expects that they will announce the expansion of the distribution center before the end of the year.