

Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission
Board of Commission Meeting
7:00PM, May 1, 2008
Mahoney State Park – River View Lodge
Ashland, NE.

DRAFT

Commissioner Attending: Marsha Babcock, Rich Jansen, Paul Cook, Pete Kotsiopoulos, Phil Mullin, Brad Stauffer, Brenda Gunn, Marlin Petermann, Ken Svoboda, Ernie Abariotes, Mayor Tim Gilligan – alternate.
Kathy McKillip – NIZC Director, Richard Baier – NDED Director.

Members Excused: Chuck Sigerson, John Plucknett, Jeff Weak, Bernie Heier, Mark Stursma, Dave Nielsen,

Visitors: Ellen Fitzsimmons, Doug Bisson, Connie Anderson, Paul Mullen, Tim Weander, Alice Weander, Norma Nelson, Duane Dowd, James Krance, Steve Oltman.

Chair Brenda Gunn welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

Kathy McKillip, NIZC Executive Director, then took the Commission roll call at 7:11PM.

Approval of the Agenda

Chair Gunn asked for approval of the agenda as distributed. *Motion made by Commissioner Svoboda and 2nd by Commissioner Jansen, to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion approved 11- 0.*

Approval of Minutes

Chair Gunn asked for approval of the 04/03/08 NIZC minutes as distributed. Corrections were made to the minutes regarding the miss-spelling of names from those who attended the April meeting. These correction requests were emailed from the individuals, to Kathy McKillip. *Motion made by Commissioner Jansen and 2nd by Commissioner Svoboda to approve the minutes as corrected and distributed. Abstentions; Cook.*

Motion approved with 10 to approve and 1 abstention.

Commissioner's RFP Phase -1 Proposal Report & Discussion

Doug Bisson, HDR Team project manager, presented the final report for Phase I. Questions from the Commission were asked regarding the removal of support data from the appendices, and the numbering and color coding regarding exit 439 – Hwy 370. Comments from the Commissioners also included, having one final piece that includes ALL information and that possibly this could be placed on a disk, or DVD. HDR stated that additional copies are not within their contractual scope of work, Richard Baier, with NDED offered to provide the disk with all information regarding the Phase I project, to the Commissioners.

Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period opened at 7:22pm.

Duane Dowd – Property owners at exit 439 – Hwy 370. Mr. Dowd owns more than 300 acres, and the numbering and shading on the NIZC Phase I report do not demonstrate the real interest in potential development. Mr. Dowd would like to see in the report that the area he owns not be categorized as industrial, but rather mixed use; to include retail, housing, etc. Expressed concern over what is really the high and best use for the area. Please amend for final distribution

Jarel Vinduska, SAVE. Expressed concern over conceptual ideas and plans being given credibility for interchanges.

John Knapp, Sarpy County, Springfield; questioned the background information on Ashland dam, and how it should have been considered for the Phase I report.

At this time, seeing that there were no more additional public comments, Chair Gunn asked for a motion to close the public comment period. *Motion made by Commissioner Svoboda, and 2nd by Commission Gilligan to close the public comment period Motion approved by consent.*

Public Comment period closed at 7:50pm

Executive Director Report

If there are additional correspondences that I need to be aware of and add to the list please let me know. Hard copies in the mail have been eliminated to only those specifically requesting them.

Remember, if you are a guest, please sign in and provide contact information so that the Commission can keep you updated and informed.

Currently working on setting up a K-10 tour for the Commission for July 2008.

All Commissioners have received the public comments that came in via email, fax, or snail mail during the public comment period, regarding Phase I final report and are stapled together for your review.

June 5, 2008 NIZC meeting will be held at Quarry Oaks Golf Course. All meetings have been scheduled through Sept. please check your agenda's for those meeting dates and locations.

Traditionally the Commission has cancelled its July meeting if it has been close to the 4th, this year our meeting falls on July 3, 2008. Commission needs to decide if this meeting will be cancelled. Final Report to EDA regarding our grant is due May 31, 2008.

Commission, Phase I – Discussion

General discussion began regarding the report and input. Comments expressed support the framework that has been developed. Concern over having all information in place for review is important, after all, this was a data gathering, assessment process to prepare the Commission in regards to making recommendations. Along with support to local

jurisdictions, commission needs to consider the work that has already been done by those local jurisdictions. The First Guiding Principles and language in the Phase I report should utilize and assist Commissioners in moving forward to the final recommendations.

Concern over conceptual versus real interchanges resulted in a motion. ***Motion made by Commissioner Svoboda, and 2nd by Commissioner Abariotes, to delay a vote on the final plan to June 5, 2008 meeting; discussion regarding the motion; Goal is to create a document that provides information in a broad base to come together and develop a product with recommendations for a greater picture of the targeted area and support NIZC recommendations. It will be in the final phase that NIZC Commissioner's will begin to define the principles and how they relate to the area's strength and weaknesses. Friendly Amendment, after discussion, by Commissioner Svoboda, "Motion to pull the prior motion with the support from the prior 2nd, Commissioner Abariotes; to accept the final draft report for Phase I as reviewed and corrected regarding the numbering of pg. 143, and/or exit 439. Motioned approved, the voting of 11-0 in favor.***

At this time, seeing that there was no other Commission business. ***Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Svoboda 2nd by Commissioner Jansen. Motion approved by consent.***

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McKillip
Executive Director - NIZC