

**Board Summary**  
**May 10, 2016**

Please note: Marketing & Public Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.

**Board Items**

**OEPA Dredging Conference**

Conference to be held regarding beneficial reuse of dredge material from Ohio dredge sites. Please note, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers submitted notice of dredging of the Lorain Harbor for the 2016 season. Concern was expressed by the mayor regarding the open lake dumping of material. Correspondence received from the Corps regarding this issue is included within your packet.

City Council has requested a public meeting regarding this issue. To this end, I have arranged a meeting between the corps, administration and OEPA at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the format for the public meeting.

Also, a meeting is scheduled with representatives of Kurtz Brothers regarding their operations with the Cleveland Port and beneficial reuse of material. This meeting is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Tax Exempt Financing – IRS Definition of “Political Subdivision”**

The IRS has proposed a change to the definition of a “political subdivision”. If this change is made it could terminate our status as a “governmental entity” since the Board members are appointed rather than elected to the position. Another consequence would be our ability to issue tax exempt bonds.

I have already discussed this issue with our state consortium of ports and we will be working with the community development finance authority (cdfa) to voice our objection to this change

**Bond Issuance**

Update on our progress with issuance of a bank qualified bond for Ohio Guidestone a non-profit organization in Cuyahoga County

**Agency Liability Insurance**

Renewal quote from Allen Thorley Delloyd for the agency premium for 2016. The original premium last year was \$64,7727.00. However, this sum was reduced during the year through negotiations and clarification regarding the number of captains on our shuttle boats.

Thus for review, after reduction:

2015 \$59,352.00

2016 \$62,833.00

**Maintenance Contracts Update**

Tiffany will report on the major maintenance contracts entered into since our last meeting

**Grant Project Update**

We have the opportunity to apply for various grants for the agency. However, what we apply for is simply a factor of available grant funds and the ability to provide the necessary local match. It should be noted, that we budgeted \$40,000 for capital improvements projects.

We recently submitted a request for a Law Enforcement grant through the state for both marine patrol equipment items and a storage building. This grant had a limit of \$100,000 and if approved would require us to provide approximately \$24,000. We will know the status of the grant around May 19<sup>th</sup>.

We received quotes for the new proposed dock and kayak launch at Riverside Marina. This estimate is \$125,000. It was our intent to utilize the Ohio Department of Natural Resource's NatureWorks grant program for this project. Unfortunately, funds for this program are allocated by county. This year Lorain County was allocated only \$52,000. Even if we received the total allocation for the county, our local match would total \$73,000.

Our next option is to apply for a grant for the extension of our transient dock at Black River Landing. The estimate for this project is \$75,000. Again, if we were to receive the total county allocation our match requirement would be \$23,000. If both the law Enforcement and Natureworks grants are submitted or approved, we would exceed our availability of matching dollars (\$40,000 -\$47,000)

Subsequently, we are also considering a third grant option – The Market District Development Grant (Recycling). This is a 50-50 grant through the county. We are proposing to acquire additional picnic tables and to replace benches at Riverside Park . We are currently working on this cost estimate and the local match requirement.

Thus, depending upon If the law Enforcement grant is awarded we have several options to consider.

#### Strategic Plan Update

Connie and the staff will meet on May 5<sup>th</sup> to review information for a committee meeting to be scheduled in the near future to discuss property prioritization and development strategies.

#### Personnel

##### Intern

As previously discussed with the Board we are in the process of setting up interviews to select an intern for the season. This position is to be shared with Bob Earley of Rockin' on the River. This position was programmed within our personnel budget.

##### Receptionist position

As we traditionally do each year, we will be increasing the hours of the receptionist. Due to a health concern, it may be one employee or a combination of both.