



February 11, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Present:

Amanda Cecil
Kate Swanson
Violet Worth
Wendy McMann
Kevin VanHorn
Doug Weisheit

Allyson Gutwein (CEO)
Katie Sheets- Board Attorney

Absent:

Tim Beyer
Matt Gentry
Greg Ballard

Note: No board vacancies as of February 2025.

Opening of the Meeting:

The Discover Boone County met on February 11, 2025, in the Connie Lamar Room within the Boone County Annex Building. The meeting was called to order by Treasurer/Secretary Wendy McMann at 4:38 p.m.

In the Matter of Public Comments:

No public comment.

In the Matter of Confirmation of Board Members and Election of Officers:

Nominations for the election of officers for the 2025 Board:

Amanda Cecil was nominated for President by Kate Swanson.

Matt Gentry was nominated for Vice President by Wendy McMann.

Wendy McMann was nominated for Treasurer/Secretary by Kate Swanson.

All were unanimously approved.

Wendy McMann made a recommendation to the board to have signature cards at NSSB updated with new officer, President Amanda Cecil.

Introduction of Doug Weisheit, Town of Whitestown Council Presidential Appointment, to the board.

In the Matter of Consent Agenda- Director's Report, Treasurer's Report and January 2025 Meeting Minutes:

Wendy McMann made a clarification that she is the Commissioner's appointee from the January minutes.

Amanda Cecil made a motion to approve the consent agenda with corrections to the minutes. Motion seconded by Kate Swanson. Motion carried 6-0.

In the Matter of Old Business:

Attorney Update and Comment- Katie Sheets discussed end of month report filing.

Discussions about composition of the Tourism Board and Discover Boone County board.

Amanda Cecil suggested working with a committee to make decisions on the composition of the board and transparency of appointments and suggested having board members talk with towns to get some feedback. Suggested for committee meetings with Allyson Gutwein and/or Katie Sheets.

Building Update- Certificate of occupancy was issued February 7, 2025. Floor epoxy was done 3 times, and they need to fix the flooring when spilled. Furniture needs to be purchased for the building and offices. It was suggested to form a committee.

Bookkeeper Discussions- As of the meeting date, Greenwalt had not gotten a quote back to Discover Boone County for services. Decision made to table this discussion in hopes quote is received before the March meeting.

In the Matter of New Business:

Senate Bill 252 (SB252) and House Bill (HB1223) and State Budget affecting IDDC/ State Tourism- SB 252 had a second reading February 10, 2025, the bill passed, third reading February 11, 2025, nearly unanimous yes, and passed on 3rd reading. The bill has received partisan support in the Senate, and 3 of 4 representatives in the House are agreeing to sign on from Boone County.

The state budget was cut significantly for IDDC. This will affect our big data information being broken down on a county level, IDDC giving us more event exposure, as well as cuts of grant fundings.

HB1223- TIDs tourism increment districts- proposed in past but has moved out of committee which could possibly help us to help districts and areas in Boone County.

County Council gave unanimous support of SB252.

SB252, if passed and approved, would go in effect July 1, 2025. There are a number of steps that still need to be done, and we need assistance to get to the finish line.

Committee Creation and Committee Assignments- Engagement, Finance, Advocacy, Governance-

Allyson Gutwein and Amanda Cecil created committee assignments in areas with experience and with new board members. Allyson Gutwein will set up meetings for committees to get started.

Building Sign – Two sign options were sent via email. The sign would be installed end of March. Doug Weisheit moved for sign option #1, Amanda Cecil 2nd the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Summer Intern- Madeline Icenogle, a hospitality major at Ball State University, accepted an unpaid internship and will help with us behind the scenes as she is available this summer.

Treasure/Secretary Wendy McMann discussed a letter from the Boone County Assessors that we do not have to file a Personal Property return this year but will next year.

Update on the upcoming State of Tourism Meeting and Event Planner Meeting- we already have doubled the RSVPs for this year over last year's attendance. The Event Planner Meeting also has a good mix of event planners RSVP'd so far from Boone County.

Allyson Gutwein received a scholarship to attend the Destinations International CEO Summit in Savannah, Georgia – March 23-25, 2025.

With no further business, Wendy McMann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Kate Swanson. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Leigh Ann Akard.