

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the County Auditor, the public interests required that the Lake County Council, should be called to meet in special session at this time, for the purpose of considering the guidelines on the selection of Regional Development Authority Appointment, a written notice was sent to each member of the Council, and proper advertisement made, and all other acts performed in accordance with the laws governing such matters.

And now in obedience to such call, come Will A. Smith, Jr., President, Donald Potrebic, Elsie Franklin, and Larry Blanchard, County Councilpersons, together with Ray Szarmach, County Council Attorney. Councilman Ron Tabaczynski, Councilman Thomas O'Donnell and Councilwoman Christine Cid were absent. Commissioner Gerry Scheub was present. Commissioner Rudy Clay and Commissioner Fran DuPey were absent.

Smith said that this meeting is for the Regional Development Authority appointment. Potrebic asked if the Council was going to set an executive session on this. Commissioner Scheub asked when is the deadline for submitting the names?

Councilman Blanchard read that it says by September 1, 2005, and if you don't make an appointment by then, the Governor shall instead make the appointment.

Attorney Szarmach said that the deadline is September 1, 2005.

Commissioner Scheub said they should set up an executive session and have the interview process prior to that and the selection about a week before the deadline.

Smith said that the consensus of the Council is that they would like to see a process in which a date is set for submissions, allowing people to submit their applications, put a close on that date, followed by an interview process, and a selection date. Smith said there would be three dates set up, the deadline of submissions, a date for interviewing, and a date for the selection process.

Commissioner Scheub said that it was also discussed that no candidate could be from Gary, Hammond, or East Chicago, according to State Statute, and he wanted that to be known right away.

Smith said it is not the Council's or the Commissioner's setting, but this is a part of the law that no selection should come from Gary, East Chicago, or Hammond, Indiana area.

Smith said they need to look at a date for the application deadline.

Franklin made a motion that we set the 3 different dates that will enable us to have a deadline for submissions, a date for interviewing process, and a date for the selection process. Potrebic seconded the motion.

Commissioner Scheub suggested that after the interviewing, they have a week between the meeting for the selection.

Attorney Szarmach said that actually, this could be set up by the Chair of the Council and Commissioner, they don't need to vote on this. He also said that he wanted to make clear, in reading the Executive Session statute, the last 3 candidates have to be interviewed and discussed in an executive session. Attorney Szarmach said that is under 5-14-4.5-6.1.

Attorney Szarmach said he would work with Attorney John Dull to put a procedure together as to whether it's going to be open or closed, but as far as your dates are concerned, he thinks they should establish them today.

Attorney Szarmach said that at this meeting, they should announce that they are taking applications, they may want to advertise a short notice in the two newspapers that you are going to conduct interviews starting August 10th or 11th, and they are going to cut that down to the final 3 by August 17th, which will give you two weeks to set up any other meetings that you want.

Applications will be taken from now through August 10, 2005 at 12:00 Noon, and should be submitted to the Auditor's Office.

Interviews will begin in an Executive Session at 10:00 A.M. on August 16, 2005.

There will be another Joint Executive Session on August 22, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. to continue interviews of applicants.

August 24, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. the 3 candidates will be announced in a public meeting.

August 31, 2005 at 1:00 P.M. announcement of the appointment to the Regional Development Authority.

Smith wanted to reiterate that the Council and the Commissioners has no say so, in terms of where the person who is selected comes from. Smith also said he is appalled that they weren't given the opportunity,

after being mandated to put up \$3.5 million dollars to participate with this Authority, and then told that we are restricted from selecting someone from Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago. Smith said he thinks that it should be taken into considerations that there be a representative from a minority community, Hispanic and African American, and women because so far, Smith has not seen any females being considered; therefore, Smith is encouraging females to apply.

Smith also said that the people who previously submitted applications to serve on this Authority should re-submit, and the qualifications are set up by legislation.

Attorney Szarmach said a member appointed to the board must have knowledge and at least five years of professional work experience in at least one of the following: rail, or air transportation, and regional economic development.

Franklin said she hopes they go through this harmoniously, as a group and come out with the most qualified person, not because of who he is, but based on the commitment to the community, and the qualifications.

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved and seconded that the Council does not adjourn to meet again.

President, Lake County Council

ATTEST:

Lake County Auditor