

## Grow Licking County CIC

Board of Directors Meeting  
May 9, 2022

Location: Licking County Library, Newark, OH, Hosted by the Licking County Chamber of Commerce

Present: Corey Alton, Mike Compton, John Fisher, Duane Flowers, Erin Grigsby, Patrick Guancia, Brandon Hess, Mark Johns, Jim Layton, Lauren Massie, Mark Mauter, Jennifer McDonald, Robert O'Neill, Jim Roberts, Joseph Robertson and GROW staff Alexis Fitzsimmons and Hayley Feightner

Excused: None

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM by Chair Mark Johns.

Ms. Massie called the roll.

Ms. McDonald welcomed everyone on behalf of the Licking County Chamber of Commerce. She thanked everyone for collaborative efforts, especially with the Port Authority and GROW CIC. She shared that she was excited about their mission trip to Intel and was looking forward to coordinating a collective community video. More information to be shared later today.

Chair Johns welcomed guests that included Tim Bubb, Licking County Commissioner, Tom Bosco, ABC 6 and Kent Mallott, The Newark Advocate.

The minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors were reviewed. Mr. Fisher motioned; seconded by Mr. Flowers to approve the minutes. Mr. Compton abstained. The motion passed.

### Chair's Report

Chair Johns thanked GROW staff, the Chamber and the Port Authority for coordinating efforts in the County related to welcoming Intel. He stated that he doesn't feel we are behind the curve. He made comments on his visit with Intel and the Chandler community members last week.

Mr. Compton stated that the meeting with Intel was very professionally coordinated and that he appreciated the roundtable discussion.

Mr. Fisher stated that it was nice to see the relationship between the Chandler community and Intel and that he hoped the same would continue in Licking County.

Chair Johns stated that Intel has been a catalyst to other high-tech operations in the Chandler and surrounding areas. He stated that it was good to see how the community and company are able to work together.

Mr. Hess stated that he appreciated the comment from Chandler that they "only have so much land" and he believes they are selective and have had a meaningful approach which is a

comment to consider for planning.

Chair Johns cited an example of the local retirement community and Intel with on-going fab construction and how they have worked well together over the years. He stated that they have also worked well with the adjacent Indian reservation.

Mr. O'Neill asked about workforce and impact to other industries in the area. Chair Johns commented that his understanding was that Intel's impact was to help attract from the surrounding communities and then train the workforce themselves.

Ms. McDonald said that she agreed and that they had a land-use plan that was strategic. She commented that they were selective on how the community was built out. Chair Johns stated that they "over built" utilities, infrastructure, etc. up-front.

Mr. Hess commented that the 65 square mile span in Arizona is equivalent to the New Albany, Alexandria and Johnstown areas.

Chair Johns commented on the education and workforce opportunities, including Intel's focus on associate degree level jobs which will make up 70% with technicians.

Mr. Mauter asked if Intel commented on if they had to do anything over again and how they responded? Chair Johns said their comments were around green energy.

### Committee Reports

Finance & Strategy –Mr. Robertson asked the Directors to review their packet for Budget vs. Actual and the February 2022 statement (see handouts). He also reviewed the balance sheet as of February 28, 2022. He stated that they are working to make the reports more user friendly.

Ms. McDonald asked for clarification on being behind in Accounts Receivable. Mr. Robertson stated that it is due to timing of payments in the previous years. There is not a set due date of payments.

Marketing – Ms. McDonald met on April 20 with elected officials and shared an update on interactions with Intel. Next meeting is May 26 at 9am with elected officials – this is not a public meeting. One city council or trustee is invited to attend.

She shared that the launch of welcomeintel.com is now available. Anyone can sign up for the newsletter which is being led by the Port Authority. Ms. Grigsby commented that it will be disseminated via email and in the mail this week. This website also connects with the LCWorks website and efforts.

The career pathways billboard effort is on-going and secured through the rest of the year. The committee plans to advertise other manufacturing opportunities. Last round was healthcare.

The committee is putting together a two-minutes Licking County "quality of life" video collaborative between the Port Authority, Chamber of Commerce and GROW.

Ms. Feightner just put out a final draft of the Annual Report. The committee wants to put together another Investor's event and disseminate the Report then.

September 2022 training effort is planned. The upcoming Local Leaders breakfast will center around the Intel visit.

Infrastructure – Mr. Roberts reported that the water and sewer study final contract is being approved by the County prosecutor's office now. The consultant has started scheduling meetings, with the first scheduled for June 9 with the superintendents.

Two letters of support were submitted to Congressman Balderson's office that included: City of Johnstown Ohio Water Recharge and Exploration Study and Licking County/Intel 9.1 Miles of Various County and Township Roads. A letter of support was also sent to Senator Sherrod Brown's office for the Johnstown work.

Mr. Flowers reported that Congressman Balderson has moved all Licking County requests forward.

Mr. Johns asked about the City of Newark's Thornwood Drive effort. Ms. Fitzsimmons stated that a request for a letter of support wasn't put forward to GROW CIC, and that it was supported by the Port Authority.

Mr. Roberts reported that MORPC and LCATs are coordinating an effort to apply for a RAISE Grant for "Silicon Heartland Mobility Start-up Strategic Plan". This opportunity is for large projects (\$5M plus) and the application process is time consuming. The project will help determine what the County wants to do around the Intel site. That will take some time to put together. The focus is on transportation for workforce, materials, etc.

LC Works – Ms. Massie shared that the committee met on April 25, 2022. They were joined by JobsOhio/OneColumbus representatives, and those that attended the higher education Intel trip shared their comments. Ms. Massie shared comments on the visit and the collaborative effort around curriculum development to support Intel. She commented that Intel was open to understanding Ohio's higher education model that includes a focus on industry credentials that is different from Arizona's higher education model.

The committee continues to work on developing the first in a series of career pathway videos starting with the healthcare and manufacturing career pathways.

Ms. Fitzsimmons shared an update on the potential housing study. A scope of work has been drafted. The committee is determining associated costs. There is a meeting with the Housing Authority later today.

#### Director's Report

Ms. Fitzsimmons shared the recent media and press from the Intel project. She has connected with Emily Smith, Intel's Ohio Public Affairs Director. She also shared an update on community growth in her communications with the City of Maricopa. Finally, she shared a timeline of Welcome Intel efforts (see power point).

She shared that she's met with COTA and they want to be a partner and resource.

GROW has submitted for 12 site attraction proposals. Two project announcements: BEHR paint company and Prudential Cleaning Services. There are also several expansion projects in the works.

Ms. Feightner commented that GROW staff have been participating in many community planning committee meetings, including in Jersey Township. GROW staff are also participating in Etna Township meetings.

She is working to finalize the Annual Report with a final draft recently sent to the marketing committee.

She provided updates on the work for GIS mapping – she has started a web app which will allow GROW to embed mapping into the website. She is working with the Licking County IT staff to see how to integrate parcel data from the auditor's website to keep the content updated, as well as a similar approach for zoning information.

This is the last week for GROW's intern, Erin Anderson. She submitted a thank you letter to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Compton offered to host the November 2022 Board of Directors meeting.

Ms. Fitzsimmons reported that she and Mr. Guanciale have been meeting with potential sponsors to off-set costs related to creating a new full-time GROW staff position for a marketing coordinator. The Licking County Foundation is seeking their board's approval to commit \$20,000 each year for the next three years to support the new marketing coordinator position. They are also exploring other funding opportunities.

The Board of Directors discussed the new position, suggesting tweaks to the job description. Mr. Hess commented that he has heard some feedback of frustration from Investors regarding lack of communication so he believes this position will help. Chair Johns commented that GROW's workload has increased. He stated the need to be involved and steering the Intel project is important, and that it is a balance to ensuring that the existing work continues. Mr. O'Neill asked whether the position was a priority and if outsourcing is a possibility. Ms. Fitzsimmons confirmed the work is a priority to increase communication. Ms. Feightner asked Mr. Hess what the position description could include to increase communication to investors. Mr. Hess suggested that investors get the information first. Mr. O'Neill commented that we need a staffing plan because we will continue to expand as an organization. Mr. Flowers commented that the Board could review the marketing coordinator position again in three years to assess if it is still needed. Ms. McDonald commented that with an increase in communication, the position should prove beneficial by attracting additional investment.

#### Comments from Citizens

Mr. Bubb provided comments related to transit. He stated that the County is exploring a regional approach with COTA. COTA has committed to supporting a consultant for the next year to assist Licking County with planning. Moving materials and individuals will be a challenge and need in western Licking County. He suggested to review the "Insight2050 Corridor Concepts" study that outlines a five-corridor plan for transit systems.

Mr. Bubb commented on the sustainability of the marketing coordinator position. He cautioned that the position is an expense that if the Foundation funding goes away, GROW will need to plan to cover the costs of this position because it would be a challenge to go back to two positions instead of three in the future.

Items for Action

Mr. O'Neill motioned; seconded by Mr. Alton to approve the February 2022 financial reports as presented (see handout). The motion passed.

Mr. Guancia motioned; seconded by Ms. Grigsby to authorize GROW CIC to sign an engagement letter to Wilson Shannon and Snow for yearly 990 filing. The motion passed.

Mr. Hess motioned; seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the GROW CIC Marketing Coordinator position description as amended to include a clause of "other duties as assigned". The motion passed.

Ms. McDonald motioned; seconded by Mr. Flowers to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 11, 2022 at 12:00 PM – Hosted by Licking Memorial Hospital

Respectfully submitted, Lauren Massie, Secretary