

## Grow Licking County CIC

Board of Directors Meeting  
March 14, 2022

Location: OhioMeansJobs of Licking County, Newark, OH

Present: Corey Alton (12:05 PM), John Fisher, Duane Flowers, Erin Grigsby, Patrick Guanciale, Brandon Hess, Mark Johns, Jim Layton, Lauren Massie, Mark Mauter, Jennifer McDonald, Jim Roberts, Joseph Robertson and GROW staff Alexis Fitzsimmons and Hayley Feightner

Excused: Robert O'Neill

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by Chair Mark Johns.

Mrs. Massie called the roll.

Mr. Fisher welcomed everyone. He shared the many community partners OhioMeansJobs of Licking County works with as an umbrella agency to provide a variety of assistance and support services. He also shared the July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 Annual Report for the agency (see handout).

Mr. Guanciale motioned; seconded by Mr. Fisher to excuse absent board members. The motion passed.

Chair Johns welcomed guests that included Tim Bubb, Licking County Commissioner, Angela Carnahan, OMJ Licking County and Kent Mallott, The Newark Advocate.

The minutes from the January 10, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors were reviewed. Mr. Flowers motioned; seconded by Ms. Grigsby to approve the minutes. Mr. Mauter abstained. The motion passed.

### Chair's Report

Chair Johns shared feedback from the Site Selectors Guild Conference in San Diego, which he attended with the executive director. He shared that the Intel project is huge and will have a greater impact than he realized given conversations from the event. He stressed the importance of the county coming together and collaborating to make this project a success. He shared that GROW is well-positioned, and that the economic growth potential will be impressive. He stated that we may have a challenge in attracting projects outside of Intel. Finally, he stated that we need to do more and quicker as a county and organization.

Chair Johns introduced the new Board of Director, Mark Mauter, representing the city of Newark.

Mr. Mauter introduced himself and shared his background and education. In 2012, he accepted the Newark City position of Community and Economic Development for Mayor Hall. He shared an overview of his role for the city, including funding initiatives that support the public, and the

establishment of an economic development partnership and related tools.

### Committee Reports

Finance & Strategy –Mr. Robertson asked the Directors to review their packet for Budget vs. Actual for January 2022 (see handout). There will be a cumulative comparison handout in next month's financial materials, per Ms. McDonald's request at the last meeting.

Mr. Alton asked for clarification on the year-to-date net revenue amount. Mr. Robertson confirmed its accuracy but suggested that it may change after the quarterly review. Ms. Fitzsimmons commented that the organization also carried over funding from the previous year.

Marketing – Ms. McDonald reported on a variety of publications featuring Licking County. She stated that the committee is looking at several events in June and December 2022. They are also assisting with finalizing the annual report. Finally, she reported that the committee is working on a more strategic and scheduled approach to the social media campaign. Reminder of the upcoming May 3 elective official training – two sessions.

Mr. Flowers asked what GROW is doing to assist existing manufacturers in light of the Intel announcement. Ms. McDonald stated that GROW is organizing efforts with the Chamber and the Port Authority to communicate to them, including running a billboard. She also mentioned all of the efforts happening in Licking County regarding Intel, and the need to coordinate efforts.

Infrastructure – Mr. Roberts reported that the committee is involved in the water and waste infrastructure RFQ with the county. There were four submissions made that will be reviewed. The committee has set up meetings to find the path to coordinate across resources moving forward. He shared that most of the Intel investment will be to improve 161 to the west and improve the interchange. The committee has discussed concerns about Licking County roads, so they are approaching this conversation to plan, coordinate, and prevent any negative impact, especially in regards to transportation and utilities.

Mr. Alton asked how we are leveraging JobsOhio resources to assist with the Intel Project. Ms. Fitzsimmons stated that she will share in her report. See below.

Chair Johns asked about information about traffic studies, particularly the geographical scope. Mr. Roberts stated that the answer was unknown at this point, but that ODOT predicts that 50% of the traffic from Intel will come from Franklin County. Mr. Robertson suggested that they look at the Etna traffic study as a model.

The Board of Directors had a robust conversation on housing, workforce talent, and transportation related to the Intel project. They discussed similar community impacts as historical models for expansion and zoning needs and issues.

LC Works – Ms. Massie shared the committee met in February 2022. The committee is working on developing the first in a series of videos starting with the healthcare career pathway. Licking Memorial Systems has signed on to provide space for the shoot, along with C-TEC/COTC identifying graduates of the training in the pathway. The committee also joined the Chamber's workforce group to hear a presentation on affordable housing.

Ms. Massie asked the Board of Directors if they are interested in GROW, through the committee, looking into a housing study. Mr. Flowers shared his idea and support of this effort,

as did Ms. Fitzsimmons. She explained the potential benefit of the study, to look at inventory and needs, and explained that the information could be used to influence or suggest policy changes needed in communities to reduce barriers. Chair Johns asked how school districts will be engaged. Ms. Massie suggested that they successfully engaged all Licking County superintendents for the workforce skills gap analysis, so they could utilize a similar approach. She also stated that communities will complete their own studies; however, this information could be another tool in their toolkit. Mr. Guanciale and Mr. Mauter suggested the need for conversations about types of housing developments and its impact to zoning and school districts.

Chair Johns shared comments about how exciting and positive the Intel project is – an unimaginably positive development for the county. He cautioned that we just need to plan properly for it. Ms. Fitzsimmons commented that community preparedness is key right now.

The Board of Directors expressed interest in the committee in exploring more concretely what a housing study would entail and bring information back to the for discussion at a later date.

### Director's Report

Ms. Fitzsimmons shared the media and press from the Intel project. She reviewed key next steps, including:

1. Infrastructure
2. Workforce development
3. Transportation
4. Housing
5. Supply chain recruitment
6. Outreach to existing Ohio suppliers

GROW is working with OhioMeansJobs Licking County on workforce efforts and business retention and expansion efforts to support existing employers.

She reported on the Site Selectors Guild Conference in San Diego. She shared that the state of Ohio had a great showing, and there were great conversations with site selectors. She shared the plan for follow-up to those contacts later this year.

She reported that OneColumbus has hired **Ted Gear** to solely help Licking County with the Intel project. His background is from MORPC, so he will help align local efforts to regional and state efforts.

Ms. Fitzsimmons and Ms. Feightner have joined the ETNA Township community board.

Several townships have requested new or updated service agreements from GROW.

Ms. Feightner commented that housing is so important and many communities are working on comprehensive plans, so the housing study discussed earlier would be a helpful tool.

She is working to finalize the annual report and developing a strategic social media campaign.

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.

Ms. Feightner is attending courses from April – October and has received a scholarship through the Mid-Ohio Development Exchange.

Chair Johns commented on the time and resources of GROW staff that will need to be dedicated to the Intel project. He asked the Board of Directors to think about staffing needs. Mr. Alton mentioned his ongoing conversations with community organizations, who he thinks will step up to support the effort should GROW need to fill another position. Mr. Fisher requested that Ms. Fitzsimmons put a proposal of needs together for the board to consider. Ms. McDonald concurred.

### Comments from Citizens

Mr. Bubb provided comments related to the Intel project. He applauded the discussion today and the thoughts surrounding organizational efforts. From a county government perspective, he shared that we can’t lose sight of what we all do in Licking County that made Intel want to come into the community.

Chair Johns commended Angela Carnahan on her great work in “leaving potential employers with a comfort level” related to workforce and hiring needs.

### Items for Action

Mr. Hess motioned; seconded by Mr. Guanciale to approve the January 2022 financial reports as presented (see handout). The motion passed.

Ms. McDonald motioned; seconded by Mr. Flowers for GROW CIC to execute an agreement with OhioMeansJobs Licking County for access and utilization of EMSI software licensure as presented (see handout). Mr. Fisher abstained. The motion passed.

Guanciale motioned; seconded by Grigsby for GROW CIC to execute an agreement with OhioMeansJobs Licking County to cooperate and participate in a Business Retention and Expansion Program as presented (see handout). Mr. Fisher abstained. The motion passed.

At 1:44 PM, the Board of Directors entered Executive Session, **under ORC 121.22 Section G(8) to consider negotiations with other political subdivisions requesting economic development assistance.** Ms. Massie called roll. All present approved. Ms. Fitzsimmons and Ms. Feightner were invited to stay.

At 2:03 PM, Mr. Layton exited the meeting.

Fisher motioned; seconded by Ms. Grigsby to resume public session at 2:05 PM. Ms. Massie called roll. All present approved.

At 2:06 PM Mr. Layton re-joined the meeting.

Ms. McDonald motioned; seconded by Mr. Alton to allow GROW CIC to execute an agreement for economic development services with the City of Pataskala as presented (see handout). Ms. Massie called roll. Ms. Massie called roll. (Alton: Yes; Fisher: Yes; Flowers: Yes; Grigsby: Yes; Guancia: No; Hess: Yes; Johns: No; Layton: Yes; Massie: Yes; Mauter: Yes, McDonald: Yes; Roberts: Yes; Robertson: No. The motion passed.

Roberts motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 9, 2022 at 12:00 PM – Hosted by Licking Chamber of Commerce

Respectfully submitted, Lauren Massie, Secretary