

401 ¹/₂ MAIN STREET ★ COSHOCTON ★ OHIO ★ 43812 PHONE: (740) 622-7776 FAX: (740) 622-4917

CCRPC Executive Committee

Monday, July 10, 2017 @ 3:30 pm

Commissioners Conference Room

Mr. Don Wells opened the meeting with the following members present: Mrs. Brandy Burchett, Mr. Dane Shyrock, Mr. Ron Lusk, Mr. Charles Hathaway, Mr. Curtis Garber, Mr. Steve Hall, Mr. Steve Lonsinger, Mrs. Tiffany Swigert as well as Mr. Alan Donaker and Mrs. Brooke Alverson

Don Wells and stated that Mrs. Tiffany Swigert had resigned as the Regional Planning Director as of last Friday, July 7th. There was general discussion about appointing an interim director immediately. Mrs. Swigert gave her recommendation to appoint Mrs. Brooke Alverson as interim director as she has been doing the job now since September alongside Mrs. Swigert.

Charles Hathaway made a motion to appoint of Mrs. Brooke Alverson as Interim Regional Planning Director.

Mr. Ron Lusk seconded this motion. All vote aye none were opposed. The motion carried.

Mr. Dane Shryock stated that the everyday operations would be the same as vacation mode with the Interim Director until further notice.

Mrs. Swigert then processed to discuss her love of Regional Planning and that it would be very difficult to walk away from it, she sees Regional Planning as a benefit to the Port Authority. As the Port Authority Director, she would like the benefit to see land that may help in the development of our county. For an example, there was an encroachment issue today that came up in the office and she knew right away the correct path to fix that issue. The Regional Planning revenue could help fund the Port Authority. Regional Planning and Port Authority would still have two separate boards, she has worked two jobs very well the last 9 ½ years and thinks that she could continue to do so in the future. Mrs. Swigert talked about having help with the Regional Planning with the employee that the Port Authority already has in the office working-Renee Hardesty. Brooke is willing to work with Renee to help train her in doing the same daily function that she has been doing since September. Tiffany realizes there is times the Port Authority office will be closed but in today's world with technology, you are only a call, text or message away from setting up an appointment with someone who may need to talk over their property division. Tiffany also stated that this is a decision that needs to be made sooner than later and once the decision has been made that the board needs to talk to the commissioner's about this as well sooner than later. Tiffany also let the board know that she did reach out the Port Authority President Mr. Robert Simpson by email last Thursday, but had not heard anything back from him to date.



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Mr. Dane Shryock stated that Mrs. Brooke Alverson was hired to help with the employee health insurance as well as the new Safety Director.

Tiffany did say that she spoke with the Port Authority Board about taking Regional Planning with her during her interview and that the board seemed very receptive of that. She also stated that the prior Port Authority Director had sat on 11 boards in the community and she doesn't' think that is necessary to do and by stepping away from some of those boards she will have additional time for the Regional Planning.

Mr. Shryock stated that two years ago the prior Port Authority Director had approached him about taking the Regional Planning downstairs in her office.

Mr. Steve Hall said he would not support the move that Tiffany needs to concentrate on more economic development solely.

Mr. Ron Lusk stated he would like to see Tiffany be pro-active with the Port Authority.

Mr. Don Wells has concerns about Regional Planning and the Port Authority combination due to the fact there would be two different boards and the Sunshine Law and privacy issues. Mr. Wells thinks the board should take a step back and look at this let us see what it looks like or what happens before we make any discussion.

Mr. Alan Donaker asked how many employees does the Port Authority have and are they willing to hire more if the workload gets to be too much with the addition of Regional Planning.

Mrs. Swigert stated that she has talked with Renee Hardesty who currently works at the Port Authority office and she thinks that the combination is doable with the additional workload. Tiffany also expressed that she spoke with Dorothy the previous Port Authority Director and that she thinks that there will be enough time to devote to both jobs.

Mr. Shryock stated that the community expects the Port Authority to be a miracle worker in our community and that just is not possible. He also spoke of the issue Kraft Foods is having hiring an additional 120 employees in their factory.

Mr. Charles Hathaway expressed his feelings of wanting Tiffany to succeed in her new job and does not think she should worry about Regional Planning. He also stated that Tiffany needs to stay on the 11 boards to gain more networking within our community. His vote would be no.

Mr. Lusk stated he thinks the workload will be too much.

Mr. Steve Lonsinger asked if the Port Authority is under the county IT, and it was answered that yes they are. Steve also said that it is not the Regional Planning Boards concerns if she can do the Port Authority job up to



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their expectations. Mr. Lonsisnger said he thinks it would be ok for her to take Regional Planning with her and that there could be a contract, it does not have to be forever that after a year it could be re-evaluated.

Mr. Donaker spoke to ask would this be a conflict of interest. The Port Authority would be looking for property to bring in business and the Regional Planning could help make that happen.

Mr. Wells thinks the board should wait 1-2 months to let Tiffany get a handle on her new job to make a decision about the merge.

Mrs. Swigert stated since it seems like this board here today is not on board with me taking Regional Planning with me I will not bring it up on Thursday to my Port Authority Board or even the Regional Planning Full Board. She stated that the executive committee has the best understanding of what it is I do and if you do not thinks it is a good move then we can just leave it here.

It was then asked to how long we will leave Mrs. Brooke Alverson as Interim.

Mrs. Brandy Burchett spoke up and stated if you hire someone new, you stand to lose a lot of information that Tiffany has learned over the last 10 years. She also stated that Tiffany has a great connection with those she works with in the community that has made a great difference in Regional Planning.

Mrs. Swigert stated that she does not want to walk away from this, but it just may be easier to do. Maybe it would not work out anyways; however, I will help and see how it goes.

Mr. Wells stated that the Full Board meeting scheduled for Monday would need to be cancelled. Don still would like to know what the Port Authority thinks about this merge.

Mr. Curtis Garber sees the good and bad in both situations.

Mr. Lusk thinks we should just see what happens.

Mrs. Swigert is going to talk to the Port Authority Board on Thursday to see what they may think of this as well and to see if she has their support. The Port Authority needs to know there options, however it was brought up during Tiffany's interview process that she would like to see this merge happen and they seemed supportive of it at that time.

Mr. Shyrock said the reason they entertained this idea in the first place was due to the fact that money ties their hands at the Port Authority and taking Regional Planning with them would allow for more revenue in that office.

More revenue in the office could help tremendously and get the results the community wants.



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Tiffany stated she would send out an email on Friday to the Executive committee and let them know what the Port Authority Board thought about the combination of both jobs.

Mrs. Brandy Burchett made a motion to meet again on Monday July 24th for a special executive committee meeting to discuss this issue again.

Mr. Charles Hathaway seconded the motion. All vote age but one, Mr. Steve Hall were opposed. The motion carried.

Meeting stood adjourned at 5:15 PM