

**OTTAWA PORT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2015**

**ROLL CALL**

President Keith Conrad called a regular meeting of the Port District to order on January 16, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. with the following board members present: Keith Conrad, William Franklin, Jr., Katie Troccoli, Mark Stoudt, John Stone, and Charles Sheridan. Also present were Boyd Palmer, Reed Wilson, and Rich Burton.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of December 19, 2014 were presented and approved as amended by unanimous vote following a motion by Katie Troccoli and second by Charles Sheridan.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Katie Troccoli presented a financial report and reported the transfer of \$500.00 from the money market account to the checking account. Bank statements were distributed to everyone. It was reported that a \$300.00 fee for the five year permit was received from Starved Rock Yacht Club. Financial report was approved on motion of Charles Sheridan, second by William Franklin, Jr. and unanimous oral vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Nothing to report.

**MEMBER REPORTS**

William Franklin, Jr. updated the board concerning the multi-modal project. Two meetings have taken place: the first meeting was to make a decision, which was to pick Hanson Professional Services, Inc. The second meeting was to discuss procedures that Hanson will follow in studying sites, narrowing from ten sites to two sites, further work, etc.

Discussion ensued regarding Hanson's dealing with Informa Economics, an agricultural and commodity/product market research, analysis, evaluation and consulting company. They have a similar job with the Illinois Soybean Association. Their number one county for intermodal study is LaSalle County. It was noted that this in turn will help the district's report. Discussion followed as to how the board could potentially establish a working relationship with the Illinois Soybean Association.

William Franklin, Jr. mentioned that Brook Nelson will be the speaker at Rotary on January 28 at noon at the Knights of Columbus. William Franklin, Jr. invited anyone to join him at Rotary as his guest.

Discussion ensued regarding the new ownership of the boat club. Larry Kiest of Keist Properties is renovating the building and reviewing options for docks along the river.

Shannon Stevens is chairing a group which includes the City, Ottawa High School and Ottawa YMCA to raise \$15,000 to conduct a study for a shared pool facility.

Discussion took place as to the terms of board members of the Port District.

**Old business:**

No reports were provided as to Illinois Sand and the LaSalle County property near Buffalo Rock, nor recent riverfront activity. No reports were provided as to Skydive Chicago except as to the upcoming Rotary presentation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Boyd Palmer led discussion regarding the needs for improved industrial space in Ottawa. Multiple businesses contact the Chamber and the Ottawa area does not have improved buildings except for the old Walmart, which is not for use.

Richard Burton reported an inquiry from the LaSalle County Clerk's office as to who should be receiving Statements of Economic Interest to complete and return to the county.

**ADJOURN**

The board adjourned at about 8:35 a.m. upon on motion of Charles Sheridan and second by William Franklin, Jr. and unanimous oral vote. The next meeting of the port district will be February 20, 2015.