

## **COLUMBIA CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES**

**April 14, 2026**

Members present:               President Commissioner Carl Siler  
  Vice President Commissioner Scott Gates  
  Secretary Commissioner Angela Cotter  
  Commissioner Samara Thompson  
  Commissioner Tad Varga  
  Commissioner David Smith (Ex-Officio)

Members absent:               ----

Also in attendance:           Community Development Director Chip Hill  
  Mayor Ryan Daniel  
  CCRDC Attorney Greg Hockemeyer  
  Whitley County EDC President Dale Buuck

President Siler called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the March minutes. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Secretary Cotter. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

### **Old Business-**

**LML Property** – President Siler said the soil management plan has been approved.

**Van Buren/Washington Streets Site** – Chip Hill does not have any updates.

**Former Jail Property** – An RFP was sent to the commissioners prior to the meeting for them to review. Page two of the revised RFP needs to be amended—the time needs changed to noon. Vice President Gates made a motion to approve the RFP with the noted time change, seconded by Commissioner Varga. A vote was taken; all voted aye. Chip said he received two appraisals for the property, which were both in the negative.

**Smith Brothers Property** – A meeting was held yesterday between Mayor Daniel, Attorney Hockemeyer, President Siler, Ice Miller, SME, and Chip Hill. The property will need to be approached in two sections—the portion owned by the City and the portion owned by Smith Brothers. It is recommended that they use the “prescriptive method”, which will go through IDEM and then EPA, to declare the site as needing remediation. This step must be completed before insurance claims can be initiated. Soil testing also needs to occur. President Siler said the site was remediated in the early 2000s, but they only went down approximately three feet into the soil and the PCBs are approximately three to five feet below.

### **New Business-**

**Eagle Landing** – The owner of Eagle Landing would like to seek annexation, per Chip. This property is located behind Kroger.

**Thomas Marshall Plaza** – The ground below the bricks has settled and there is rippling near the building. Attorney Hockemeyer suggested Chip reach out to the original contract for suggestions on how to proceed. The commissioners are not interested in turning the space into a parking lot.

**Other Business-**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm.

*Submitted by Ashley Buckles, Executive Assistant to the Mayor*