

*"Working to promote a healthy business environment in Grundy County"*

# InFocus

December 2011  
www.gedc.com

## Wrapping up 2011

## GRUNDY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

2011 has been a busy year at the GEDC with many initiatives gaining momentum and increased prospect and expansion activity. Looking back, here are a few of the highlights from the past year:

- \* **Brisbin Road Groundbreaking** After more than ten years of working together, community and business leaders celebrated this milestone on March 28.
- \* **Grundy County CEDS approved** The comprehensive economic development strategy enables the county to qualify for specific grant programs for public infrastructure improvements.
- \* **Route 47/Transportation Initiatives** The expansion of Route 47 to four lanes is a top priority under the GEDC's strategic plan. In November it was announced that funding is available to kick-start the project from I-80 to Sherril Road.
- \* **EDPA # 2** – Plans for the County's second economic development project area are underway with a proposed zone of approximately 2,000 acres.
- \* **Prospects/Expansions** – Existing industries along Route 6 made investments in the County with rail expansion projects at Aux Sable, LyondellBasell and Akzo Nobel. New projects were welcomed into the area including Midwest Industrial Sales, Electrolux, and Morris Medical Care Center.
- \* **Clean Line Energy** announced its intent to locate a \$250 million converter station in Grundy County, pending final execution of a redevelopment agreement with the county.

## Prospects

The GEDC learned that a site in Grundy County has made a final short list for a proposed distribution center. The project is estimated at an investment of \$125 million and would create approximately 800+ job opportunities within two years of completion. Plans call for the confidential client to choose a site in January of 2012.

## Calendar

Dec. 23 & 26	GEDC office closed
Dec. 30 & Jan. 2	GEDC office closed
Jan. 13	Executive Meeting

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## Taking Shape

Last month we provided a brief update on the construction progress for the Brisbin Road interchange. In the spirit of "a picture is worth 1,000 words" we wanted to share an aerial photo provided by Pat Stanton of Patrick Commercial Real Estate. The picture gives a great perspective on the project and its relationship to the existing industrial corridor just down the road including the former SAPA location which is currently being marketed for redevelopment.



## New GEDC Officers & Board Members Elected

### 2012 Officers:

**Scott Wilkinson, Chair**  
Exelon—LaSalle Station  
**Mark Steadham, Vice Chair**  
Morris Hospital  
**Jeff Rzasa, Acting Treasurer**  
Standard Bank  
**Pete Brummel, Past Chair**  
Grundy Bank

### Welcome to our New Board Members:

- \* **Charrisa Dehler**, First Midwest Bank
- \* **Chris Figge**, S.S.C. Installations, Inc.
- \* **Jim Watters**, IBEW Local 176
- \* **Jason Wiesbrock**, Spaceco, Inc.
- \* **Jim Wright**

## Thank You!

The GEDC also bids a fond farewell to the following board members:  
Bob Coleman, Bill Gerrish, Denny Hackett,  
Shawn Hamilton, Larry Tarman, and Tom Tesdal.



## Forecast calls for a trade show on January 24

The GEDC will host a booth at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Commercial Real Estate Forecast Conference on January 24 in downtown Chicago. For more details about the conference contact the GEDC or visit [www.rejournals.com](http://www.rejournals.com) for the full agenda.

From the Staff at the GEDC...

*Happy Holidays*

