

**Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes
Galena Country Tourism
Tuesday, September 17, 2024
Depot Meeting Room – Upstairs
101 Bouthillier St., Galena IL 61036**

Call to Order: 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Zeke Winders, Colin Sanderson, Betsy Rose Achett, Jack Deiter, Terry Mattson, Absent: None

Others Present: Lori Kinnaman

Citizen Comments – None

Old Business-

Mattson reviewed the financial statements and hotel tax receipts from the city of Galena. Achett questioned the additional property listed under hotels starting in May 2024. Kinnaman said she would reach out to the city and ask them if any properties have been added. Achett asked if hotel properties outside the city of Galena be added to the existing city report for a consolidated average for Galena Country. She then asked Mattson based on the information in the city's report how helpful it is in our marketing strategy and where our gaps are. Sanderson stated that it comes down to what are we doing to increase the Sunday through Thursday business. Mattson stated that what we are seeing here is already reflective of what we are already giving direction to Envionsit. Kinnaman answered a few questions that were asked at the previous finance meeting. She told the committee that she reached out to the County Clerk, Angie Kaiser, and asked what date the Jo Daviess County CVB began and from the research done Kaiser was able to trace it back to March 1989. Also, she told the committee that the last full year of returns from the Country Inn and Suites in Stockton was traced back to 2021. With only partial year returns for 2022 and 2023 and no returns for 2024. She also reached out to the Planning and Development Department for the number of licensed short-term rentals. The number of rentals was 637 but not all are currently renting but hold the license.

New Business – Mattson stated that we are working on the large lodging STR report.

Executive Session – Section 2 (c)(1) Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance, personnel.

Moved to executive session: 2:56 pm.

Exited executive session: 3:09

No motion from the executive session.

Adjourn –Sanderson motions to adjourn, Achett seconded, Meeting adjourned at 3:13 pm.

