

2023

“Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.”

- John F. Kennedy

This has been a year of building for what's to come. Day after day, month after month, we have continued persevering. Next year when you read this annual report, I know it will be full of BIG announcements.

Economic development is a marathon, not a sprint. Kate and I have worked on or had a hand in a plethora of projects this year. Some have been announced but not started (like WVUP's intentions to purchase the former Ohio Valley University property) and some you likely know nothing about but will be transformative for the County.

We work hard to honor what Wood County's past has been and even harder to progress and make the future bright for everyone who lives and does business here.

I sincerely want to thank our board and members- I've never worked with a group of people so dedicated to leaving a community better than you found it. The future is bright. Let's keep working to #developWoodCountyWV!

Lindsey Piersol
Executive Director

L.P. Piersol



Attended the Fall WVEDC Conference in Wheeling, WV & the Ohio Basic Economic Development Course in Dublin, OH.



Discovery World on Market opened in April of 2023.



Lindsey presented at the BIG Workshop, one of 6+ presentations she gave this year on economic development.

WEBSITE REFRESH

The WCED office hired Daniel Busch of EpicEar Productions to complete a website redesign which went live in December of 2022.



HOUSING STUDY

Bowen National Research completed the Wood County Housing Study in November 2022. We have since hosted several presentations, convened a housing committee and been approved as a Build WV District.



Joined Mandy from Downtown PKB to film a marketing piece for 820 Market.



Our office worked with over 57 leads and prospective businesses and completed over 142 project follow ups.

57 LEADS & PROSPECTS

OVU ANNOUNCEMENT



Photo op with Baby Dog and WV Governor Jim Justice.



In June of 2023, West Virginia University at Parkersburg (WVUP) announced it will be heading through two courts (bankruptcy and estate) to purchase the former Ohio Valley University campus in Vienna. A dream and a generous donation will turn a vacant campus into a future hub of technology for the Mid-Ohio Valley. The Ross Foundation provided WVUP with a \$10 million gift (the largest in the institution's history) to turn the campus into the future WVUP Technology Center.



Attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony for Williamstown Bank's new Location.



Joined our board members on several building walkthroughs.



+268 Followers
LinkedIn

+599 FB Likes

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS

GRANT DOLLARS AWARDED

The WCED office was awarded \$500,000 in Community Project Funding jointly from Senator Capito and Senator Manchin's offices. We were also awarded a \$400,000 Industrial Access Road Grant for a new stoplight near the FedEx Distribution facility.



98 PROPERTIES MARKED INACTIVE

TRADESHOWS

Lindsey and Kate each attended a tradeshow with the West Virginia Department of Economic Development in September and October of 2022.



Lindsey visited Frankfurt, Germany to attend Auto Mechanika Frankfurt 2022.



Kate visited Düsseldorf, Germany to attend the 2022 K Show - The World's No. 1 Trade Fair for Plastics and Rubber.



The WCED office met with over 73 businesses this year. Including Washington Works, Fontaine Modification, IBEW LU 968, Plumbers & Steamfitters LU 565, Wincore Windows, Danser, Rivertown Aviation & Discovery World on Market.

73 BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION VISITS



7 NEW PWCADC MEMBERS

2023 PWCADC & WCDA OFFICERS

Harry Silvis – Chairman***
WesBanco, VP Corporate Banking

Ryan Taylor – Vice Chairman***
Pickering Associates, CEO

Susan Barber – Treasurer***
Community Bank, President

Tim Coffman – Secretary***
Phoenix Associates, VP

Ed McDonough – Immediate Past Chairman***
MEPB, Founding Shareholder

2023 PWCADC/WCDA BOARD MEMBERS

***WCDA and PWCADC
**PWCADC only
*WCDA only

Mayor Baumgartner, City of North Hills - Mayor*

Tom Betz, Huntington Bank - VP Business Banking**

Greg Bolton, Chemours - Manufacturing Tech Manager**

Patrick Bryan, United Bank - Market President***

Chris Cochrane, RCDI - President*

Vinnie Conley, The PM Co. - Tenant Relations Manager**

Nick Curry, Curry Warehouses - VP/COO*

Andy Daniel, 3D Construction - Owner**

Jim Fawcett, Highmark WV - President***

Bob Fehrenbacher***

Mike Fleak, Williamstown Bank - VP Business Dev. **

Dr. Torie Jackson, WVU-P - President**

Paul Jordan, City of Williamstown - Mayor*

Tom Joyce, City of Parkersburg - Mayor***

MarJean Kennedy, WVU Medicine CCMC - VP Marketing***

Mary Anne Ketelson, WV Potato Chip Co. - President**

Buddy Malone, PMBTC - Business Manager***

Mike Matheny, Matheny Motors - President***

David Mitchell, Peak Living Services, Inc. - Executive Director**

Randy Rapp, City of Vienna - Mayor***

Dave Righter, First Neighborhood Bank - President***

Tres Ross, The Ross Foundation - Executive Director**

James Spanner, Parkersburg News & Sentinel - Publisher***

Amanda Stevens, Downtown PKB - Executive Director**

Angela Tadlock, Danser, Inc – CEO***

Shawn Taylor, Peoples Bank - Senior VP**

Bob Tebay, Wood County Commission***

Mike Williams, iTech - President/Owner**

Thank you!

We couldn't do what we do without the support of our members and community.

LP & #M

CONTACT THE WCED OFFICE

E lindsey@developwoodcountywv.com

E kate@developwoodcountywv.com

www.developwoodcountywv.com

P 304.422.5650

ANNUAL REPORT
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WOOD COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT