



Cummins Announces New Investment

More growth is on tap at Cummins, Inc. this year as the company announced new expansion plans during a Seymour City Council meeting in March.

In filing for tax abatement, Cummins outlined plans to invest more than \$9.2 million in personal and real property while retaining its 954 associates.

First announced in 2020, Project GZ04 will see new personal property investment of \$2.6 million and the remainder of the personal property (\$5,983,243) and real property (\$600,000) will be invested in the Cummins Technical Center.

Although no new jobs are promised, Cummins also presented its abatement compliance forms at the same meeting which revealed more than doubling its workforce since 2013.

The estimated project start date for the personal property projects is May 15 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Secretary Chambers Visits Aisin

In preparation for his March trip to Japan, Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers, far left, visited Aisin in Seymour to meet local executives and learn more about the company.



During a tour, Scott Turpin, President/CEO of Aisin World Corp. of America, provided an overview of the company. Also on the tour were Brock Herr, Senior VP, Business Development (IEDC) and Jillian Turner, Senior VP of International Programs (IEDC). During the presentation, Turpin mentioned that Aisin is the 5th largest tier one automotive supplier in the world and 8th largest in North America. There are 40 Aisin locations in nine U.S. states (9 of those in Indiana, including 6 in Jackson County), Mexico and Canada.

JCIDC Board of Directors Welcome New Members

Several new members have joined the JCIDC Board of Directors, including a representative of a new board-level contributor.

During the first quarter and at the organization's first meeting of the year, it was announced that Amanda Lowery had been appointed by the Jackson County Council to the JCIDC Board, replacing David Hall. In addition, Ron Carr was announced to replace Matt Brown as the representative for Indiana-American Water Company.

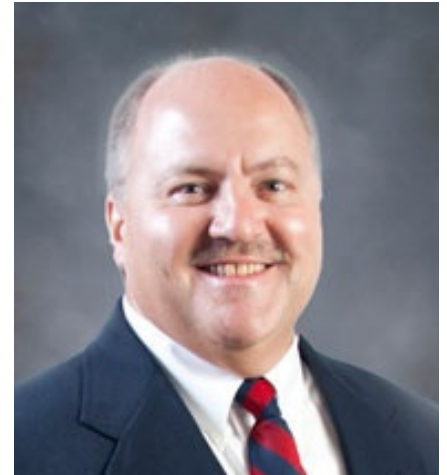
At the annual business meeting in February, it was announced that Kylie Foster had been appointed by Duke Energy to sit on the JCIDC board to replace Chip Orben, who retired in 2022, and Sharon Koch was introduced as the new appointment by the Brownstown Town Council to assume the duties of Mark Reynolds, who passed away in late 2022.

At the March meeting, it was announced that Jason Roeder would be joining the Board in April to represent Berkshire Hathaway and replace Lonn Stuckwisch, who had served since 2012. In addition, the application of Goecker Construction, Inc. to become a member of the Board of Directors was approved and that Brandon Goecker would be that organization's appointment to serve on the Board.

Goecker Construction is a fourth-generation family-owned and operated commercial general contractor. In 1954, Earl Goecker opened the doors as E.A. Goecker Building & Supply, and in 1981 the construction office was separated to become Goecker Construction, Inc. Robert Goecker, second-generation owner and family member, has since retired after many years of involvement with the business. Thomas Goecker, President, and Chad Goecker, Vice-President, are third-generation owners and operators. They both currently handle day-to-day operations and oversee many projects. In 2013, Goecker Construction, Inc welcomed a fourth-generation owner, Brandon Goecker, into the company. He also is involved with day-to-day operations, estimating, and project coordination.

2022 President's Report

by Kevin Gabbard, JCIDC Board President



It was another terrific year for JCIDC in 2022 as the organization celebrated its 38th anniversary while navigating through the lingering effects of the pandemic.

Despite concerns over the national economy during the year, activity was strong in Jackson County and throughout South Central Indiana. In fact, Jackson County saw its second highest “promised investment” total since the creation of our organization. Jackson County industries had promised investment of \$174,865,180, which was just shy of the all-time high of \$177.1 million in 2013.

The investment number comprised 11 projects, and there were six companies that announced expansions of more than \$10 million: Aisin Drivetrain (\$51 million), Valeo (\$40 million), Aisin U.S.A. Manufacturing (\$27.5 million), Cummins and Lannett (both \$20 million) and the Royal Group (\$10 million). Seymour also welcomed new investment from Guardian Bikes, as the company selected Jackson County as its new home during the second quarter.

Those investments helped keep Jackson County’s unemployment rate below state and national average, and also played into the decision of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to select Seymour as one of three cities in the state to be included in a 2023 study by the nationally-recognized Brookings Institution. That study is now underway!

Seymour also maintained its standing among the top micropolitan areas in the country as POLICOM ranked Seymour 56th out of 543 micropolitan areas in the U.S. It was the seventh straight year that Seymour ranked in the top 100.

Work also continued on the State of Indiana’s READI (Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative) program. Jackson County joined with Bartholomew and Jennings counties, as well as the Town of Edinburgh, to form The South Central Indiana Talent Region, which was awarded nearly \$30 million in late 2021. Over \$7 million was designated for Jackson County projects and included workforce development/training, infrastructure, medical and destination projects.

With the easing of travel restrictions in 2022, JCIDC returned to Japan for its first visit since 2019. Jim Plump and Seymour Mayor Matt Nicholson made the trip in early September and became the first Indiana community to make an economic development trip to Japan since COVID halted all such travel. Japan, of course, has been extremely important to the growth of this area since Jim’s first trip in 1986. Matt also was the 5th straight Seymour Mayor to visit Japan.

2022 did see some changes within the JCIDC family; Jody Deckard passed away in late September after serving as Workforce Coordinator since 2008, and Mary Winburn retired after serving as administrative director of JCIDC since 2003. Tammy Hamp was hired during 1st quarter to replace Mary and Mandy Rohdert joined the staff in August to replace Jody.

In addition, board member Mark Reynolds was killed in an accident in early December. Mark represented the Town of Brownstown. Chip Orben, who represented Duke Energy on the JCIDC Board of Directors for over 20 years, retired in late November. Their replacements, as well as other new board members were named during 1st quarter. They will join a great board of which I’m honored to have been a member since 2002, and serving as its President since 2015, joining other long-time board members and our staff of Jackie Hill, Tammy, Mandy and Jim. It has been a great run, and we’re looking forward to our 39th year in 2023. Thanks to everyone for their support.

COUNTY MAVERICK CHALLENGE WINNER EARNS REGIONAL AWARD

Brownstown Central High School student, Luke Imlay, has been involved with horses for the biggest part of his life and decided to use that experience to develop his business plan for the Maverick Challenge. Imlay's business plan, entitled "Lucky's Farrier Equipment", was one of ten finalists in the 2022-23 Jackson County Maverick Challenge who presented their business plans to a panel of judges in January earlier this year. He finished first and received a check for \$2,500 and the opportunity to represent Jackson County in the regional competition on February 18th. At the regional competition, seven students from five counties pitched their business plans virtually to a panel of judges and Imlay received the Judge's Award earning him an additional \$500.

The Maverick Challenge is a business planning competition for high school students in Southern Indiana and is a local partnership between JCIDC, Brownstown Ewing Mainstreet, and Jackson County Chamber with JCBank being a financial contributor. Since the program began in Jackson County in 2011, students have been awarded \$85,000 at the county, regional, and state levels.



Luke Imlay (second from left) and Karson Rollins (second from right) receive their Maverick Challenge checks at Brownstown Central High School



SHS STUDENT TO COMPETE IN REGIONALS AT THE STATE INNOVATE WITHIN COMPETITION

Breanna Lawrence was among 2,500 applications in the Indiana State Innovate Within. The program allows students to pitch an entrepreneurial idea and the opportunity to collaborate with world-class innovators to help turn their dream into a reality. Lawrence submitted her business pitch "Cruzin Cabs for Kids" and received word she was chosen as one of the 50 regional finalists. In April, five regional sites will host ten finalists making their pitch to a panel of judges. Lawrence will be competing at the University of Evansville on April 10th. The winning team from each region will move on to the state level in June offering their business pitch to a panel of government officials, venture capitalists, and local entrepreneurs.

The winner of the state program receives \$25,000 in seed funding, and team members can receive up to \$10,000 in tuition to any Indiana college and additional prizes worth \$5,000.

Robotics in Review

This year we welcomed St John Sauers to our "36 Robotics" program. When asked what the best part of the program was, Principal Kaycee Lambring said, "Seeing the students succeed at building their robots and working together to design them."

Dallas Goecker from Immanuel Lutheran School hosted four tournaments with over 60 Jackson County teams participating and Shawn Mahoney from Seymour Community Schools hosted their annual Seymour Community School Corporation Robotics Showcase, awarding the traveling trophy to Cortland Elementary.

Three teams from Jackson County went to the state competition at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The elementary team from Lutheran Central in Brownstown advanced to the world competition based on their skills score. Team lead, Andrea McKinley said, "Since I have repeating students, they could share some previously learned knowledge and weren't afraid to try new things and discover new solutions."

JCIDC Workforce Partnership is happy to continue supporting our teams in Jackson County and we look forward to seeing how the teams continue to problem solve and work together to design and construct their robots.

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(Ranger Enterprises)

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(Jackson County Visitor Center)

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(HWC Engineering)

Drew Markel

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Matt Nicholson

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Marilyn Price

(Owen County State Bank)

Dan Robison

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John Sadler

(SIHO)

Lonn Stuckwish

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Brian Thompson

(Seymour Aviation Authority)

Karen Trotter

(RQAW)

Mike Weir

(Town of Medora)

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JCIDC Staff

Jim Plump

Tammy Hamp

Jackie Hill

Mandy Rohdert

2023 Contributors

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Brownstown Ewing Main Street
Brownstown EDA
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Community Foundation
County Council
County Commissioners
Crothersville Town Board
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First Financial Bank
HWC Engineering
Indiana America Water
Jackson County Bank
Jackson County Chamber
Jackson County Visitor Center
Louisville & Indiana Railroad
Medora Town Board
Old National Bank
Owen County State Bank
RQAW Corporation
Ranger Enterprises LLC
Royalty Companies
Schneck Medical Center
Seymour Aviation Authority
Seymour Industrial Corp.
SIHO

Gold Level

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Biehle Electric
CenterPoint Energy
DEEM LLC
FPBH, Inc
German American Bank
Jackson Township Trustee
Lorenzo Bevers Braman & Connell
Nippon Steel Pipe America
SpaceGuard
The Peoples Bank
Vernon Township Trustee

Silver Level

Agresta, Storms & O'Leary
Aisin Chemical Indiana
Andersons
Cerrowire
Comcast Business
Cornerstone Environmental
Dunlap Construction
Force Construction
GAI Consultants
Gaylor Electric
Goecker Construction
Harmon Construction
Jackson County REMC

Silver continued...

King's Trucking
Lannett Company Inc.
Lawyer Excavation
Metronet
Milestone
Millman Realty Partners
O&k American
PNC Bank
Rose Acre Farms
Rumpke of Indiana
State Bank of Medora
The Tribune

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Blue & Company
CC ILL Holdings
Independent Land Survey
Shelby Materials

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92.7 WXKU/99.3 WZZB
Aisin Drivetrain, Inc.
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Harrell-Fish Inc.
Jackson Co. Water Utility
Midwest Natural Gas
Mussett Nicholas
Reedy Financial Group
Shepherd Insurance

Workforce Partnership

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Aisin USA Mfg.
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Brownstown Schools
Cerrowire
City of Seymour
Community Foundation
Elwood Staffing
Excel Manufacturing
E & H Tubing
Jackson County Visitor Center
Jackson County Education Coalition
Lannett Company Inc
Nippon Steel Pipe America
O&k American
Particle Dynamics
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Schneck Medical Center
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