

Egan called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Committee at 9:00 a.m., on February 1, 2010 in conference room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members Bob Egan, Ralph Sitzberger, Emil Bakka, Charles Rayala, & Jim Behling; others Kelly Haverkamp, & Rosemary Leveille

Media present: Ken Anderson, Eric Johnson

The following County Board members were excused:

The following County Board members were absent:

Agenda item # 2: Introductions – Not necessary this month.

Approve Agenda: Motion by Rayala, second by Bakka to approve the agenda to be handled in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of January 4, 2010 by Sitzberger, second by Bakka. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agenda item #5: - Update Committee Strategies for 2010 – The committee agreed that they need to keep up the open communication with the city/towns of Vilas County; along with being the conduit between the local businesses and people and the Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) until they are fully functioning. Egan stated that the county's job is not to direct VCEDC but to empower VCEDC. One action that will take place is for Egan to go to Grow North and One Prospect with the idea of getting the two (2) Wisconsin Senators, Senator Russell Feingold and Senator Herb Kohl, or their representative to attend a meeting, address the public, and have a Q & A with attendees on what to do to expand the broadband in the area and how to get the monies needed to make this possible.

Agenda item #6: - Economic Development Reports and Updates – a) Vilas County Economic Development Corporation –Haverkamp stated that the first meeting of the VCEDC has taken place. The next meeting will be February 16th. The first meeting accomplished introduction of the board members and an eye opening demographics discussion of the area. The next meeting will be to discuss the development process and review the by-laws. The structural process is expected to take 4 – 6 months. b) Grow North – Egan announced that a \$5,000 matching grant has been received for advertising the area and promoting area businesses. They have also applied for yet another grant. c) Other Economic Development Activities – No extra activities have taken place in the last month.

Agenda item # 7: Economic Development Budget/Approval of Bills – Egan thanked the Finance Committee for approving the carryover of the remaining 2009 budget to the 2010 budget. Leveille presented an updated budget report and the following voucher: Kathleen Haverkamp-\$36.97. **Motion by Rayala, second by Bakka to approve the budget report and the voucher as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda Item # 8: Out-of-County Travel – None for this month.

Agenda item #9: Correspondence and Communications – Egan stated that the Northwoods Inventors and Entrepreneurs Expo will be on Feb. 10th at the Northwoods Banquet Center in Rhinelander starting at 5:00 pm. Rayala told of an individual receiving private monies to start a 2 million dollar company, so money is out there.

Future Meeting Dates/Items: The next regular meeting will be Monday, March 1, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Behling said that he will be unable to attend.

Adjournment: Motion by Rayala, second by Sitzberger to adjourn at 10:30a.m. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.
Submitted by: Rosemary Leveille