

Egan called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Committee at 9:00 a.m., on June 6, 2011 in conference room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

**Present:** The following persons were present: County Board members Bob Egan, Jim Behling, Emil Bakka & Ed Bluthardt; others Ken Stubbe, VCEDC Economic Executive Director; Colin Snook, Phelps Town Chair; Kelly Haverkamp, UWEX, & Rosemary Leveille

Media present:

The following County Board member was excused: Ralph Sitzberger

The following County Board members were absent:

**Approve Agenda: Motion by Bluthardt, 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 May 2, 2011 by Bakka, second by Bluthardt. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Economic Development Reports and Updates –**

a) Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) – Stubbe stated that the VCEDC are working on fund raising and the efforts are going well. Two of the projects that he is working on are very close to becoming a reality; one will be an internet café incubator and the other an office to share work space and possible internet connects. There are a total of 20+ projects that he is working on at various stages. Unfortunately the pellet company did not get their funding. The Angel investors also have 4 projects to consider with 1 being relocation and another for expansion of an existing company. The VCEDC broadband sub-committee will have a booth at the “Festival of Flavors” event on August 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> for talking with the public and interested parties on broadband. The Lt. Governor will be coming to this area soon and the broadband sub-committee will take advantage of this opportunity to speak to her of the needs and wants of Vilas County with regards to internet connections. Haverkamp gave the committee a summary (on file in the UWEX office) of the Business Retention Expansion survey that was conducted by the VCEDC. She also explained to the committee the “Lunch ‘n Learn” sessions conducted on Wednesdays in May on marketing, which had a positive turnout and outcome. Each week was attended by at least 10 people who also gave suggestions on more subjects and requested that these sessions continue. Egan stated that there is a potential buyer for the Nagel property and the County is working with the buyer and seller for now.

b) Grow North – Egan stated that the last meeting was about the strategic planning and the discussion took place for 4 hours. Haverkamp gave the committee a copy of the strategic planning synopsis (on file in the UWEX office).

c) Other Economic Development Activities –

A copy of the letter sent to all of the Town Chairs and the City Mayor (on file in the UWEX office) was given to the committee members. Snook asked for help with some Phelps business possibilities. Stubbe will be assisting him.

**Economic Development Budget/Approval of Bills –**

A budget update (on file in the UWEX office) was given to the committee. Leveille presented the following voucher: Kathleen Haverkamp-\$88.74. **A motion by Bluthardt to approve the update and the voucher presented was made with a second by Bakka. Motion was accepted.**

**Out-of-County Travel –**

**A motion by Bluthardt, second by Bakka to approve Egan attending the Grow North monthly meetings held on the first Friday of the month and also the special one on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Correspondence and Communications –**

Nothing for this month.

**Future Meeting Dates/Items –**

The next regular meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment –**

**Motion to adjourn by Bluthardt, second by Bakka at 9:55 a.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