

Economic Development Committee Meeting

July 11, 2011

Egan called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Committee at 9:00 a.m., on July 11, 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, Ralph Sitzberger, & Ed Bluthardt; others Colin Snook, Phelps Town Chair; Kelly Haverkamp, UWEX, & Rosemary Leveille

Media present:

The following County Board member was excused:

The following County Board members were absent:

Approve Agenda: Motion by Bakka, second by Sitzberger 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 June 6, 2011 with the correction to the first item first line from VCDEC to VCEDC by Sitzberger, second by Bakka. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Economic Development Reports and Updates –

a) Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) – Bakka stated that the Angel Network meeting for the VCEDC went very well with about 25 – 30 people in attendance. The meeting was intended to pair up potential investors with potential entrepreneurs. One person gave a presentation on starting a chocolate factory business. Also VCEDC will be making a list of second home owners in Vilas County for possible investors. Behling asked if this committee should get involved with helping potential businesses with ways to prevent potential regulatory burdens. The committee said they would need to wait for each individual situation as they come up.

b) Grow North – Egan said Grow North is working very hard on updating their mission statement along with promoting and developing the five county consortium.

c) Other Economic Development Activities – Sitzberger announced that the NCWRPC has lowered their dues to \$46,000 for Vilas County. Egan was appointed to the Strategic Planning Board for NCWRPC. He was also asked by County Board Chair, Favorite, to attend a meeting in Forest County with regards to the Canadian National Railroad. Snook stated that the Phelps Sand Lake Club is interested in purchasing the old grocery store, he requested Egan to attend the meeting on July 14th to be part of the discussion.

Economic Development Budget/Approval of Bills –

A budget update (on file in the UWEX office) was given to the committee.

Out-of-County Travel –

None for this month.

Correspondence and Communications –

Behling stated that he has been getting a lot of mail on the ATV issue in Vilas County and was wondering if the Economic Development Committee should get involved and do some research on the economic development opportunity. Egan stated that John Westbury from Workforce Development is doing a study for Forest County and will ask him to come to the August meeting of this committee and discuss this matter with us.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting will be Monday, August 1, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn by Sitzberger, second by Bakka at 10:15 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