

Economic Development Committee Meeting

November 5, 2012

Bluthardt, chair, called the meeting of the Economic Development Committee to order at 9:02 a.m., on November 5, 2012 in conference room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members: Ed Bluthardt, Emil Bakka, Ralph Sitzberger
Lorin Johnson & Chuck Hayes; others Chris Stark, & Rosemary Leveille
Media present: Joe Van DeLaarschot
The following County Board member was excused:
The following County Board members were absent:

Approve Agenda: Motion by Sitzberger, 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 October 4, 2012 of the Economic Development Committee by Johnson, second by Bakka. Motion carried, all voting aye

Economic Development Reports and Updates –

a) Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) –Stubbe’s VCEDC report was distributed (on file in the UWEX office) to the committee and Stark highlighted a few items: VCEDC is continuing to monitor the process for the revolving loan and its distribution to Grow North; they are looking at the revolving loans that are connected with Oneida County and Langlade County; and they are coming close to acquiring a second incubator in Manitowish Waters with the current incubator almost to capacity with a potential new tenant that will create a minimum of 5 jobs. Bluthardt spoke of the Northern WI Rail Commission and their survey in the area. He explained that this will be a long process.

b) Grow North – Bakka also stated that Grow North is involved with the Northern WI Rail Commission. Grow North had an informational gathering for approximately 400 7th and 8th graders that was very successful. The children were given talks and demonstrations on different manufacturers to help start their thoughts of the future and careers. Johnson attended a testimonial meeting on November 1st on the need and lack of broadband in the area. Seven people were asked questions and their answers were recorded for compiling a report. The report will be given to the legislators.

c) Other Economic Development Activities – Stark announced that the “Lunch ‘N Learn” offered by the Eagle River Revitalization Program (ERRP) will be back starting in late November or early December and will run every other Tuesday for 8 to 9 sessions. Sitzberger stated that the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is looking for projects.

Monthly Budget Review -

Leveille distributed the update of the budget (on file in the UWEX office). Leveille was directed to get clarification from the Finance Director if the remaining monies in the Economic Development budget can be given to VCEDC this year.

Out-of-County Travel –

None for this month.

Correspondence and Communications –

Nothing for this month.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting will be Monday, December 3, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment –

Bluthardt adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

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