

Economic Development Committee Meeting

February 3, 2014

Chair Bluthardt called the meeting of the Economic Development Committee to order at 9:00 a.m. on February 3, 2014 in Conference Rm # 2 in the Vilas County Courthouse.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members: Ed Bluthardt, Ralph Sitzberger, Mark Rogacki, Emil Bakka and Chuck Hayes; others present included County Economic Development Director Bob Egan. Guests: Tom Nitz. Media present is Brian Jopek with the Lakeland Times.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda to be handled in any order at the discretion of the Chair by Bakka and seconded by Sitzberger. Motion carried, all voting aye. Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting taken on January 7, 2014 by Sitzberger and seconded by Rogacki. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Economic Development Reports and Updates –

Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) updates:

- a. **Economic Development** – Egan updated the committee on the Hwy. 70W Incubator facility and the businesses that will be coming into this building. The new 12 week entrepreneurial class has started with 11 people enrolled. Discussion on how the incubators are doing with only one office open in ER and the MW incubator is full. Two people going into the Juday building. Mr. Juday is donating 12 laptops to Nicolet College with the caveat that they be housed at the incubator for use at the EC classes. Nicolet College and WIBC are in the incubator 4 hours a week now.
- b. **Grow North** – Next meeting is on February 14, 2014 at the Olson Memorial Library per Sidlowski, temporary Grow North director.
- c. **Railroad Commission** – No report at this time.
- d. **Other Economic Development Activities** – Stark passed around the “2nd Annual Economic Development Summit” being held in Lac du Flambeau February 18-20. Stark may attend on the 19th (on file). Also on March 11, 2014 there will be a LEAN Fundamentals for Local Government Training Conference in Green Bay (on file). Discussion on how new committee members will get to know what is happening with EDC. Egan would like to have a one on one and give the new supervisors a tour of the incubator buildings with a meeting being held there also.

Monthly Budget Review/Statement of Bills – Budget was reviewed.

Out of County Travel – Nothing at this time.

Correspondence and Communications – Sitzberger updated the committee on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan for North Central Regional Planning Commission which is online and one will be sent to Egan for the EDC. Rogacki wants to know if there is a plan for keeping young people here. Egan updated the committee on what/how Nicolet College is doing to prepare people for jobs. Guest Nitz pointed out that Common Core Curriculum is being implemented now in the public schools. Discussion.

Future Meeting Dates/Items – The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday March 4, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Minutes reflect the recorder’s notations and are subject to approval by the committee. Submitted by: Gail Kukanich