

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
January 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Green Lake County Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors was called to order by Roger Field, at 8:30 AM on Friday, January 11, 2013, Green Lake County Government Center, Conference Room #1106, 571 County Board A, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting laws were certified as being met.

Present: Roger Field Phil Baranowski Marge Bostelmann
 Harley Reabe Dave Abendroth Carla Hargrave
 Scott Sommers Mary Lou Neubauer

Absent – Ken Werth

Also present: Jason Kauffeld, Jack Meyers, Al Shute, Dan Hurst, LeRoy Dissing, Ed Schuh, Darrel McCauley

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion/second(Neubauer/Baranowski) to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion/second(Abendroth/Reabe) to accept the minutes of August 3, 2012. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPEARANCES – None

HOUSING GRANT APPROVAL

Sue Meier appeared to explain a request for a housing project. Total loan is \$24,100.

Motion/second(Neubauer/Sommers) to approve the housing loan. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLY OPENING A THRIFT SHOP IN THE OLD HHS BUILDING

Dissing and Ed Schuh appeared to provide information on their research and planning to develop a thrift store in the old HHS building. Discussion was held, questions were asked and answered. Estimated remodeling would be about \$60,000 to \$100,000. Dissing will contact Bill Wheeler to discuss possible help for the project.

ZONING ISSUES AND BUSINESSES

Field stated that he believes that the County Zoning Department has been responsive to businesses. Reabe stated that zoning has issued several permits to businesses one specifically to Gelhar Mining. Field mentioned that many of the “hot buttons” have been addressed and things appear to be going well.

APPOINTMENT TO TREC BOARD AND TREC RLF COMMITTEE

Currently Reabe and Werth are on the TREC Board and their term expired 12-31-12. Reabe would like to continue on the Board. Abendroth stated that he would be willing to attend the meetings with Reabe.

Motion/second(Baranowski/Hargrave) to appoint Reabe and Abendroth to the TREC Board. Motion carried.

Field is currently on the TREC RLF Committee and his term expires 12-31-12. He is willing to stay on the committee.

Motion/second(Baranowski/Abendroth) to reappoint Field to the RLF loan Committee. Motion carried.

STRATEGIC PLANNING & BYLAWS

This will be discussed next meeting. Kauffeld also suggested working towards an action plan at the next meeting also.

Motion/second(Baranowski/Reabe) at the next meeting take the 1st hour for the strategic plan and action plan. Motion carried.

REPORT ON TRI-COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Wheeler sent an email stating the following information on Green Lake County business.

1. Hunt's Repair outside of Manchester to assist with an expansion that will enable them to service semi cabs inside vs. outside for \$60,000. Increased business should bring with a couple of jobs and retain those that could be laid off in the winter months. Markesan State Bank was the partner.
2. Fox Valley Dental located in Berlin and Montello. Alex White, the son of Kelly White dentist in Princeton purchased the buildings and practice which has been pretty much in a caretaker state since the owner passed away several years ago. Nice project especially with one of our own coming back home. Farmers and Merchants were the primary lender. We did \$50,000 in working capital.

TREASURER'S REPT

Account Balances as of July 31, 2011

EDC account: \$13,995.91

Housing RLF: \$21,685.32

UWEX AGENT REPORT

Jason introduced Darrel McCauley who is the 4H Youth agent. McCauley explained his role and plans for 4H. He plans to focus on youth development in not only young children but also teens and job development and career planning.

The ICC meeting on February 18th held in Baraboo will be on Economic Development. Thrive and New North representatives will be at the meeting. Jason invited the members to attend the meeting. The March 18th ICC meeting will be held in Green Lake and will be Economic Development part 2. He will ask Bill Wheeler to attend and represent Green Lake EDC.

VOUCHERS – None

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Meyers stated that at the last ICC meeting was on economic development with representative of Workforce Development of South Central Wisconsin. They presented an economic overview on GLC. Meyers gave a copy to Field and will give on to Wheeler.

Field stated that he has concerns over the lack of enthusiasm for economic development in the area. Times are different and the uncertainties give potential business entrepreneurs hesitation to move forward. Meyers stated that a business owner in his area see the biggest problem for his business is finding employees who are trained or trainable, willing to learn, willing to work and willing to stay employed. Discussion was held on how to improvement the local labor forces. Wisconsin Workforce Development should be working with businesses in the area to see the needs they have for employees.

Future Meeting Dates: February 8th or February 1st.

Future Agenda Items for action & discussion:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second(Baranowski/Hargrave) to adjourn at 9:55 am. Motion carried.

Submitted by

Marge Bostelmann
Secretary