

Minutes of Meeting
Traill County Economic Development Commission
November 17, 2016 - 7:00 p.m. TCEDC Office – Hillsboro, ND

Board of Directors present: Rick Halvorson, Neil Breidenbach, Gary Nysveen, Kurt Elliott, Greg Krieger, Roxanne Phipps, Paul Geray, Alana Gerszewski, Phil Murphy, and Ken Nesvig. Also present: Mitch Calkins – Lake Agassiz Regional Council Program Administrator, Melissa Beach – Executive Director, Jessica Spaeth - Project Coordinator, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner, and Jim Johnson – Traill County Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Halvorson.

Mitch Calkins, program manager for Lake Agassiz Regional Council presented information on the 2018-2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The planning process is designed to bring the public and private sectors together for the creation of an economic roadmap meant to diversify and strengthen regional economies. The final drafts of the CEDS will be submitted to the US Economic Development Administration in June 2017.

Secretary's Report

Motion by Breidenbach to accept the September 15, 2016 meeting minutes, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Motion by Phipps to ratify the October 2016 checks, seconded by Murphy. Motion carried. Gerszewski moved to approve the payment of checks as submitted, Geray seconded. Motion carried.

Motion by Nysveen to accept the [October 2016 treasurers reports](#), Breidenbach seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

Beach presented the monthly executive director's report. A question of the need for affordable housing was asked by Murphy. It was discussed that there is still a need for affordable housing in Traill County.

Unfinished Business

Beach provided a brief update on child care and will bring the number of licensed child care spots throughout the county to the December meeting.

City signage grants were awarded to Galesburg and Reynolds. The city of Reynolds sign has been erected. The city of Galesburg will be erecting their signs soon.

Beach shared the approved 2017 budget.

New Business

Beach shared the progress on the Shop Local Traill campaign. Shop Local materials have been delivered to 125 storefronts throughout Traill County. Nine businesses have registered as

champions and have received additional materials, such as buttons for employees and reusable bag with the shop local branding, to assist in marketing their businesses as well as the program. Overall, businesses have been receptive to the program.

Beach shared Stuart Larson’s resignation from the Trail County EDC board effective November 14, 2016. Larson’s resignation leaves a position open on the Nominating Committee as well.

Murphy began his work as the now sole member of the Nominating Committee. Murphy indicated that he would be done in his role as representative. Beach explained that his term runs through December. Elections of new officers will take place in December with appointed members taking office in January. Beach and Elliott will work with the county commissioners to determine the state’s attorney’s replacement and at what capacity.

Community Updates

Breidenbach – asked the status of the natural gas project, one new house east of town, Chinese water bottling to begin March 2017, 34 new water hookups, new city sign up.

Krieger – Township annual meetings, harvest near completion.

Nysveen – Dollar General near completion, homes in Prairie View are being finished, new sports complex had open house last week and was very successful.

Elliott – Sheriff’s office remodel ongoing, elections are done, annual tax statements are being mailed, county commissioners will change leadership roles – chair and vice-chair positions serve on TCEDC’s board.

Phipps – vendor show on Saturday from 10 am - 2 pm at the community center, the city will take over the community center, proposed raise to the sales tax to support the community center will be on the June 2018 ballot.

Geray – the sports complex held open house – the event was much larger than expected, St. John’s meatball dinner this weekend to benefit new playground on the west side of town, Burger King completed remodel, Dollar General coming along, HEDC and KRJB Radiothon for child care held yesterday – raised \$8,750, the city is cracking down on dilapidated properties, winter sports are starting soon, Hillsboro-Central Valley Booster Clubs have combined.

Gerszewski – four new homes in Riverwood, possibly a fifth going up, December 9-10

Winterfest, Christmas Cash program has 20 business participants, National Guard will leave armory January 2017, Dollar General store moving along, antique store in Portland purchased, Turkey Bingo at Our Lady of Peace.

Halvorson – Preparing to set up new city signs, houses being demolished, some houses for sale, Fire Department fundraiser very successful.

Motion by Murphy to adjourn the meeting, Phipps seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Officer (printed name & office) Signature Date

Recording Secretary (printed name) Signature Date