

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

Board of Directors present: Rick Halvorson, Ben Hershey, Kurt Elliott, Jay Henrickson, Alana Gerszewski, and Gary Nysveen. Also present: Melissa Beach – Executive Director, Jessica Spaeth - Project Coordinator, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner, and Jim Johnson – Trail County Tribune.

Prior to the meeting, the group toured Degelman Industries USA. Terry Wahl, Manager, gave the group a tour of their new facility in Hillsboro. The company distributes equipment such as rock pickers, diggers, dozer blades, land rollers, harrows, mowers, and vertical tillage. Degelman Industries USA currently has four employees and has future plans to include manufacturing which will require 8-15 more employees.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Halvorson.

Due to quorum not being met, Beach moved directly to the Executive Director’s Report.

Executive Director’s Report

Beach presented the monthly executive director’s report as attached.

Secretary’s Report

Motion by Elliott to accept the February 18, 2016 meeting minutes, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

Motion by Henrickson to accept the March 8, 2016 Strategic Planning meeting minutes, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Gerszewski moved to accept the February 18, 2016 treasurer’s report, Henrickson seconded. Motion carried.

Motion by Elliott to approve payment of checks as submitted, Hershey seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Beach provided a marketing committee update. A contract has been signed for the billboards and will begin April 1. Anchor Marketing was contracted to create a new logo. All print materials will be designed in-house. The Shop Local campaign will begin August 1. Eggs & Issues breakfast meeting (or a similar concept) will allow TCEDC to meet with smaller communities to assist with needs. There was discussion on options to make the website responsive. It will be discussed in June to possibly include cost in next year’s budget.

There was no update on Trail United Group.

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The Economic Impact Committee met regarding natural gas. There was testimony on missed and lost opportunities for small communities due to the lack of natural gas. There was opposition from propane.

The Hillsboro Hotel/Retail Feasibility Study has been completed. Hillsboro EDC approached TCEDC requesting partial financial help in the amount of \$1875. The group determined they did not want to set precedence in such a request after the fact.

New Business

There was no update on the strategic plan.

Beach shared information the Economic Developer Roundtable discussion on North Dakota Housing and Finance.

Beach shared information on North Dakota Tourism Grant Programs.

There was discussion on a new Versatile dealer in Buxton and if an APUC grant would be suitable. It was determined that there would be no action until further information was obtained from the company.

Community Updates

Hershey – Beach presented the annual report at city council, city vs. private-owned lots, civil defense upgrades, no movement on housing.

Elliott – Bridge maintenance, Sheriff Office remodel, roofing at county buildings.

Henrickson – Spring Break this week, continuing budget work, HPER faculty and staff moved to new addition, TCEDC able to tour new addition at April 21 meeting. The former Polar Communications building has been sold.

Gerszewski – Shopko going very well, Casey’s General Store applied for building permit, 1.5 lots sold and approved in Riverwood, Community Club breakfast April 2.

Nysveen – Customer Appreciation Breakfast will be held April 16 in the Community Center, Ryan Opdahl purchased Envirotech building – Envirotech will operate out of the back of the building.

Halvorson – Elevator remodeled restaurant into office space, nearing completion and looks good.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Officer (printed name & office) Signature Date

Recording Secretary (printed name) Signature Date