

Minutes of Meeting
Trail County Economic Development Commission
May 18, 2016
7:00 p.m. TCEDC Office - Hillsboro, ND

Board of Directors present: Rick Halvorson, Gary Nysveen, Phil Murphy, Roxanne Phipps, Paul Geray, Stuart Larson, Greg Krieger, Ben Hershey, Mindy O'Connor, and Alana Gerszewski. Also present: Melissa Beach – Executive Director, Jessica Spaeth - Project Coordinator, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner, and Jim Johnson – Trail County Tribune.

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

The group began with introductions and welcomed new TCEDC directors Mindy O'Connor, Mayville State University representative, and Paul Geray, At-Large representative.

Secretary's Report

Motion by Hershey to accept the April 21, 2016 meeting minutes, seconded by Gerszewski. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Nysveen moved to accept the April 21, 2016 treasurer's report, Phipps seconded. Motion carried. Motion by Murphy to approve payment of checks as submitted, Gerszewski seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

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

Unfinished Business

The marketing committee met via email and voted on new branding. The billboard on Interstate 29 south of Hillsboro (northbound) is now wrapped with marketing promoting shovel ready sites in Trail County with a different domain name to more easily track billboard marketing.

Beach shared a summary of the last Economic Impact Interim Committee meeting; propane proponents came on strong, the testimony provided by Bobcat was positive, there was discussion on the ultimate goal, which would be business use. Murphy described the role of EmPower in the legislature. The commission presents to the legislature which bills to put forward in the next session. The natural gas discussion will continue at an Economic Impact Interim Committee meeting next week in Bismarck.

Nysveen provided an update on the Hillsboro hotel and restaurant progress. Hillsboro EDC is working with an investor committee to determine hotel chain and restaurant options. The ultimate decision will be made by the investors.



Beach provided a UAS update. There are test flights scheduled for this week. An updated flight plan will be provided by the Extension office.

New Business

Beach discussed renewing the TCEDC City Signage Grant Program to communities that did not participate in the program the last time it was offered. Those incorporated communities include: Galesburg, Reynolds and Buxton. The signage program would grant 1:1 match up to \$1,000 on city signage. Motion by Larson to resurrect the previous program with the same requirements as before, seconded by Murphy. Motion carried.

Beach provided an update on child care. There is a possible expansion in Portland. Beach shared a message she received from a resident in Hillsboro expressing concerns on the lack of child care available in Hillsboro. The family is considering moving to another community that is able to offer adequate child care. The estimated need is 30 spots to fill the need for 0-3 years, summer, and before and after school. The group discussed considering more grants, interest-free loans, and other options to assist interested parties in starting a child care facility. It was recommended TCEDC offer 0% interest loans to child care providers/facilities and help with technical assistance.

Community Updates

Nysveen – Hillsboro Days June 16-19, Country Hearth will have an equipment sale, the building is to be demolished July 1, Sports Complex is coming along, Hillsboro Ambulance held Open House on Monday.

Murphy – Outgoing supervisor of Child Care Aware may have ideas on child care.

Phipps – New in-home child care provider, Hatton EDC is discussing expanding residential lots.

Geray – Glad to have been asked the join the board and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Larson – County Road 81 due to be completed by early September, finalizing contract with architects on Law Enforcement Center.

Beach – New massage therapist in Hillsboro in RS Electric building, new anchor tenant at Hillsboro Airport.

Krieger – Galesburg Area Foundation issued grants to the fire department and first responders.

Corn and soybean planting is almost done and edible bean planting will begin soon.

Hershey – Saturday was community garage sale days – there were 15 total sales, lots for sale, homes for sale, there is a third home being built, bars are up and running, fertilizer plant is busy, the fire department bought a new truck to replace old pumper truck.

O’Connor – Budget cuts at the college, graduation last week say 90-100 walkers.

Gerszewski – Robbery at Cenex, MayPort Community Club is working on SummerFest – the street dance will be held at Tommy’s.

Halvorson – Galesburg is interested in new city signs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Officer (printed name & office)	Signature	Date
Recording Secretary (printed name)	Signature	Date
