

Minutes of Meeting
Trail County Economic Development Commission
January 16, 2014
7:00 p.m. - Via conference call due to blizzard

Board of Directors present: Scott Hovde, Deb Kylo, Roxanne Phipps, Tom Eblen, Gary Nysveen, Jay Henrickson and Phil Murphy. **Also present:** Executive Director, Melissa Beach.

Chairman Hovde called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report:

Motion to approve the December 19, 2013 meeting minutes by Kylo, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to approve the December treasurer's report by Henrickson, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

Motion to approve payment of checks as presented by Kylo, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion regarding old debt and outstanding checks. Beach will confer with Lowell Nelson, CPA and Rebecca Braaten, auditor, as to the proper procedure regarding these items.

Executive Director's Report:

Beach reviewed the executive director's report as attached.

New Business

Board appointments were discussed. Tom Eblen will be representing the Trail County Commission for 2014-2015. Sen. Phil Murphy will be replacing Rick Holman as the legislative representative. Beach will bring to the Commission for official appointments.

Eblen will serve on the Organizational Development Committee and Nominating Committee. Murphy will serve on the Nominating Committee and Kylo will serve on the Marketing Committee. All other committee assignments will remain the same.

Beach reviewed the 2013 TCEDC Annual Report, which will be distributed to each city and various groups around the county. Motion to accept the 2013 Annual Report by Eblen, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

Eblen left the phone meeting.

Beach informed the board that as of today, she had received 13 applications for the Project Coordinator position. She has set up four interviews. Hovde and Nysveen will assist Beach with interviews.

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Discussion regarding the availability of natural gas to Traill County. Randy Schneider from the Energy Council will be presenting information to the board this spring. Murphy, who serves on the Interim Committee for Energy Development and Transportation and is also on the Natural Resources committee, explained a variety of reasons he sees natural gas being difficult to get to the area. Murphy explained where the existing pipelines are running and who manages them. He also explained that at this time we don't seem to have what it takes.

Murphy also made note of various contacts he can make to assist in the research process. Beach explained that three company prospects in 2013 cited the lack of natural gas as their reason for not relocating to Traill County. Beach and Murphy will continue to communicate regarding this issue.

Community Updates:

Henrickson - Mayville State University spring enrollment has hit another record high. The university is busy preparing for the upcoming B.S. degree in nursing.

Nysveen - Reported Hillsboro had record Christmas Cash loans of \$160,000. HEDC participated by giving out \$14,000. Agassiz Industries is a new business to Hillsboro and employs 5-20 employees located throughout the state, with expansion plans. Currently it is employed by two Mayville residents and one Hillsboro resident.

Kyllo - Epic Nutrition opened in the old L&D's Café building and will soon be open daytime hours.

Phipps - Reminded the board of the Jan. 25th Hatton Community Center Fundraiser Vendor Show and Hatton Snow Fest, Feb. 7-9.

Murphy - Intends to retire from teaching in May, 2014. He has been awarded a Bush Foundation Fellowship and will be working on a two year project involving Pre-K.

Beach discussed concerns of a businessman who wasn't pleased with how TCEDC spend the tax dollars allocated to the organization. He failed to see how the TCEDC western ND marketing campaign, Discover Traill County booklet and day care work helped the county. The group discussed his concerns being covered by the TCEDC strategic plan and mission. Beach was complemented for having 'thick skin'.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Officer (printed name & office)

Signature

Date

Recording Secretary (printed name)

Signature

Date