

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Trail County Economic Development Commission**  
**November 20, 2018**  
**7 p.m. Trail County EDC Office – Hillsboro, N.D.**

**Board of Directors Present:** Roxanne Phipps, Gary Nysveen, Alana Gerszewski, Greg Krieger, Jami Hovet, Scott Hovde (by phone). Also present: Jim Murphy – Executive Director, Alyssa Short – Project Coordinator, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner and Bryce Haugen – Trail County Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by Secretary/Treasurer Phipps.

**Introductions/Agenda Additions**

None.

**Secretary's Report**

Gerszewski moved to accept the October 18, 2018 board meeting minutes, seconded by Nysveen. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Nysveen moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Krieger. Motion carried.

Gerszewski moved to approve payment of checks as submitted. Hovet seconded. Motion carried.

**To date tax collection/revenue**

Murphy reviewed the status of the tax collections for the year and said he's anticipating funds to come in about \$5,000 under the budget approved by the county for the year.

**Close out at First and Farmers**

A. Short said all checks from the First & Farmers accounts had cleared and that after the monthly IRS tax deposit was drawn from the general fund, both of the remaining First & Farmers accounts were closed. Their amounts were deposited into the corresponding general and reserve accounts at The Goose River Bank.

**Executive Director's Report**

Murphy described some of the ongoing work with an existing client, as well as consultations with various area businesses regarding hiring and expansion. He also attended the fall EDND conference and a local SBA Business Builder workshop.

Murphy said talks regarding natural gas still are slow moving but progressing, and Hovet mentioned that Mayville State would be interested in natural gas opportunities for the university. Murphy also has contacted various property owners and developers about plans for downtown and green space development, and met with Mayville's mayor regarding the city's upcoming projects, as well as its recent successes and challenges. He also attended the State Downtown Association



conference and dealt with multiple retail space inquiries. Regarding business recruitment, Murphy met with clients regarding business expansion opportunities and assisted in locating work space for a small scientific facility.

He also conducted a radio interview with KFGO to promote the opportunities in Trail County, and met with a representative from the Hillsboro Community Foundation to see what funding sources they have available for various projects. Murphy also continued working with a few local non-profits, and Trail United Group has been administering the grants for a few area organizations.

### **Pulse Survey Questions**

Gerszewski had some follow-up questions. Murphy said he and Director Paul Geray had talked previously and most of Geray's recommended questions focused on the question of what price range is considered "affordable" when it comes to housing.

### **Replacement of outbound TCEDC Board members**

Phipps and Hovde will meet separate as the Nominating Committee. Murphy said he has someone in mind to replace outgoing Director Gerszewski.

### **Alyssa review**

Murphy plans to conduct A. Short's review in December, and will discuss it with Chairman Ben Hershey.

### **Shop Local campaign**

Radio ads have started on KMAV/KMSR and KRJB radio, and print ads have been requested in the Trail County Tribune, Hatton Free Press and Hillsboro Banner. These won't be running free of charge like last year, but the budget will be held in check.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl Hearing Nov. 19th**

The Jordahl plat was approved by Hillsboro's Planning and Zoning Commission. Jordahl Custom Homes now can submit plans for building permits. They also can get their infrastructure plans draw up so Jordahl and the City of Hillsboro can discuss the cost sharing.

### **Trail County Job Fair**

A Jan. 23 job fair/career expo is planned at the Mayville Armory. A few businesses already have signed on. Murphy plans print ads, as well as targeted marketing using social media. There will be a (comparatively) nominal charge to businesses to set up booths. Various directors had suggestions for how to market the idea, including school newsletters and lighted signs.

### **TUG adjustment for Mayville non-profit**

Murphy explained that an area non-profit serviced by Trail United Group had been charged for something unexpected and didn't have the funds to cover the charges. Phipps and Nysveen, who represent the TUG board, approved TUG covering the cost of the unexpected fee.

### **Nominating Committee for new board member**

Murphy will attend an upcoming Trail County Commission meeting to seek approval for the new board member and to extend the terms of Directors Hershey and Hovde.

Hovde left the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

**Community Updates**

- Nysveen – Hillsboro’s Christmas Cash campaign is moving along. The Hillsboro Business Association’s Christmas Carnival is Dec. 9.
- Hovet – Mayville State was awarded a \$2.25 million Title III grant over five years. The grant is intended to help retain students, improve graduation rates, help with student advisement and update classrooms, and will add more jobs. The university is carefully watching potential changes to the higher ed board and how those might impact MSU.
- Gerszewski – Winterfest will kick off in a few weeks with a parade, tour of homes, dance, etc. Ten more businesses than last year signed up to receive Christmas Cash. A new eatery will be opening in the previous Howlerz location. Something is planned at the old Whistlestop location and there potentially a few more businesses opening.
- Krieger – Farmers still are harvesting corn and soybeans. County roads are in good shape, overall. The KX4 tower is getting an equipment upgrade. They’ll be adding some new channels, and are working with BEK to do some local programming. The firemen’s raffle and supper was held in Galesburg.
- Phipps – Hatton’s Christmas festival is set for Dec. 8 and 9. The Learning Center is having a program, and there also will be a bake sale, tree lighting, museum tour and a tour of homes. Work is being done beneath the city streets, and the school project is moving along.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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