

Minutes of Meeting
Trail County Economic Development Commission
June 24, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Heritage Room, Mayville State University, Mayville, N.D.

The meeting was preceded by a 6 p.m. tour of Finley Motors in Mayville.

Present: Board members: Gary Nysveen, Roxanne Phipps, Cassie Braaten, Kurt Elliott, Jami Hovet, Judd Wilson. Also attending: Jim Murphy – TCEDC Executive Director, Alyssa Short – TCEDC Project Coordinator, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner and Jim Johnson – Traill County Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairman Nysveen.

Agenda additions

None.

Secretary's report

Hovet moved to accept the May 10, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report/approve checks

Short said the office paid out a few mini-grants from 2021 and one from 2020; now that things are opening up there are more travel expenses coming in. The office went back and forth with WEX on the benefits payments and finally got a credit issued to the TCEDC account; Short also sent a few preapproved payments that had to go prior to this meeting because the June meeting was a week later than usual.

Phipps moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried.

The list of checks for approval were pretty standard, and Short crossed off one check that was a copy and paste error. Wilson moved to approve checks, seconded by Hovet. Motion carried.

Executive Director's report

Murphy said dirt should be turning June 28 for the Riverwalk infrastructure in Hillsboro. Sellin Bros out of Hawley is doing the work. Nysveen said the letter of credit has been signed, all paperwork there. Gary knows of three lots sold so far.

The TCEDC office also had a business retention and expansion with a county business. Nysveen pointed out that child care will be a continuing issue, and a letter was circulating on Facebook about how the MSU CDP child care in Hillsboro may need to cut before- and after-school care.



The state Legislature made some changes to the N.D. state nurses' program. Murphy said he and Short were trying to disseminate the new info to area health care facilities. The program basically has the state subsidizing health care companies' bonuses.

Murphy said the office is trying to connect a Mayville-area Realtor with a potential developer to discuss some new multi-family rental properties in Mayville. A few Flex PACE loan inquiries came into our office and we hooked them up with local EDCs, as well, to see if they wanted to take the lead.

The Wells Fargo branch in Hillsboro is closing. Murphy spoke with Wells Fargo about the sale plans and also chatted with multiple parties interested in buying. Murphy said that speaking of commercial property, if there was some retail and commercial space available for rent Murphy could think of five new businesses that would open in Hillsboro and Mayville. He said everyone needs to work together to find a way to get someone fixing up old dilapidated properties for rental space.

All TCEDC board members will be invited to a Dakota Natural Gas ribbon-cutting on Aug. 5 at Crystal Sugar. Murphy and Short have continued with their monthly newsletters to businesses and other interested individuals. Murphy did a KRJB interview and the office has been helping to promote local events on Facebook. They're also still working on PIO and FEMA training because Murphy and Short are part of the county's emergency management plan.

Lunch & Learn

The office staff is working on getting a Lunch & Learn set up with Patrick Bertagnolli, maybe sometime in September.

Community showcase

Murphy and Short are still working on this, to be planned for later this year.

County audit

Because the county received FEMA money, the county has to have an audit – and TCEDC is involved because the office received a small stipend. Murphy isn't sure how intense this will be.

New board member committee assignments

Wilson, the newest TCEDC board member, was assigned to the marketing committee.

Community updates

Elliott – County wise, working on bridge issues. New bridges are coming along nicely and ahead of schedule. The commission is starting its annual budget stuff.

Trail County EDC – June 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Phipps – Hatton Eielson will have a new superintendent starting July 1. Naastad Brothers started on the new residential development, named Bernie’s Addition, where they’re working on the first five lots. Hatton Ampride is having a worker shortage and has to potentially reduce hours or offerings based on workforce. Great Plains Fireworks, operated by the Strand brothers, opened on Highway 18 during the fireworks season. A big July 4 celebration is scheduled in Hatton, starting July 1.

Wilson – The Galesburg Park Board is ready to put dugouts in the softball field using money from the TCEDC mini-grant program. The pork butt cookoff will be Sept. 25. The agronomy department from the elevator planted sweet corn in town. Wilson recently went to Bismarck to lobby for funds for building a new fire hall/community center.

Braaten – MayPort SummerFest going on. There was a great turnout at the Lutheran Church supper and art in the park. Fifty-six runners took part in the 5K, and all presale tickets for the street dance were sold. Still no housing inventory and Braaten is receiving tons of calls for rentals.

Elliott – The Kaldorville bridge project is ahead of schedule. County budget talks are starting.

Hovet – The Gene Rosholt Memorial fundraising event was well attended. BIG Family Fun Day is July 10. Everyone needs rain.

Nysveen – The pool will open in Hillsboro after work crews pulled the liner, found and repaired leaks, etc. Hillsboro Days was last weekend and it seemed like there were a lot of people in town. Sundae Brew is starting its remodeling on the front of the building. No timeline for opening yet. The Hillsboro EDC lost a gaming site when the City Commission let a local bar owner decide where gaming proceeds go; a group from Velva will be running gaming at Tap That.

Hovet moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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