

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Trail County Economic Development Commission**  
**February 24, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**TCEDC Conference Room/Zoom Video Conference Call**

**Present:** Board members: Gary Nysveen, Marshall Erickson, Ben Hershey, Larry Young, Judd Wilson, Dr. Brian Van Horn, Dustin Olson, Dave Knudsvig, Cassie Braaten, Craig Moen, Jami Hovet and Roxanne Phipps. Also attending: Jim Murphy – Executive Director, Alyssa Short – Deputy Director and Paul & Terra Provost – Hillsboro Café buyers.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Nysveen.

**Introductions:**

Murphy introduced the new board members to Young.

**Hillsboro Café loan request**

Hershey, chair of the Business Assistance Committee, presented the business loan request that was submitted to Trail County EDC by the Provosts on behalf of Craft Coffee Bistro Bar. They were seeking a \$10,000 direct loan to take over the name and location of the Hillsboro Café.

The Provosts gave an overview of their history and experience, and fielded questions from the board. They indicated they were aiming for a March 22 soft opening and an April 1 grand opening.

Hershey explained the Business Assistance Committee’s recommendation, which became the motion: Hershey moved to approve a \$10,000 direct loan with six months of deferred payments. Simple interest of prime plus 1 will begin accruing the day the clients close on the sale. Payments will begin 180 days after closing, on the day of the month preferred by the client, spread across 60 monthly payments (a 5.5-year loan in the end). There will be no penalty for early payoff. Moen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Secretary’s report**

Hershey moved to accept the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s report/approve checks**

Short said the TCEDC office had received some of the year’s larger tax deposits. Erickson moved to receive and approve the treasurer’s report, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

The month’s checks and payments include the annual website maintenance and domain fees, as well as promotional items both for an MSU alumni event and the upcoming career expo and job fair. Moen moved to approve checks, seconded by Braaten. Motion carried.



### **Executive Director’s report**

Murphy said it has been a great February; the job fair is shaping up to be really good. The event is next Wednesday at the Mayville armory and about 320 kids are scheduled to attend. The employers are from within the county but we’re also bringing in kids from schools outside the county.

TCEDC is continuing its work with Degelman on its expansion and FTE recruitment. Spent some time trying to help the Mayville dairy deal with a sudden closure. Murphy and Short continued work on site selection with Agassiz Sustainables and met with a Mayville developer regarding plans for the golf clubhouse renovations, which hopefully will include an event center. They also had a lot of meetings regarding the sale of the Hillsboro Café. Murphy and Short went to Jamestown with the Agassiz Sustainables group that wants to build a plant in the county. The company would use an existing byproduct to create plastic replacements. The project received \$100,000 from APUC for engineering work. Child care continues to be an issue and TCEDC has been looking at potential solutions with entrepreneurs who might be interested in making waves on that front.

Murphy and Short met with a local coach who requested advice and assistance on a project for funding lights at Hillsboro’s Olsen Softball Complex. The office helped submit a grant, and the project would be a great opportunity for Hillsboro to make some tax revenue. The project budget is approximately \$125,000.

COVID-19 work is winding down but Murphy and Short will take part in an active threat exercise March 9. Murphy said the exercise is a big deal to train up the area’s volunteer groups. They’ve also been working on lots of updates to the websites, and they recently met with HEDC, HBA and the City of Hillsboro about streamlining social media messaging.

### **Child care grant guidelines and approval**

Murphy and Short presented the child care grant guidelines and applications for the board’s review. They mentioned that the program’s funding would be dependent on increase enrollments, not just creating additional spots. Board members noted a few minor edits to the documents.

Hershey moved to approve the child care guidelines and application with the changes noted, seconded by Braaten. Motion carried.

### **Career Fair/Job Expo**

See Executive Director’s report.

### **Beautification mini-grant 2022 guidelines & timeline approval**

Murphy said the Marketing Committee met and agreed that the program should be specific only

to beautification projects this year because of the child care grant program that's opening up. The application window for the mini-grants would be April 1 through May 13, and the committee would decide on the grants prior to the May 19 meeting. The recommendation from that committee will be brought to the full board. The grant paperwork will be ready for approval at next month's meeting.

### **Marketing committee wrap-up**

Murphy said the office still is waiting on "Come Home to Trail" info from Buxton, Reynolds and Hatton. The Marketing Committee talked about tourism ideas and streamlining the TCEDC website so we're not duplicating information. They also talked about hosting three lunch and learns this year as we're slowly moving out of COVID.

### **Community updates**

Erickson – The bakery in Mayville is being worked on. Brad Richter bought the former HUB Insurance building in Mayville.

Braaten – The MayPort Community Club had its initial meeting for Summerfest. They're trying to plan an all-school reunion but no one wants to organize it.

Hershey – Goose River Bank is the sponsor of the new scoreboard at Kim Braaten Memorial Arena. The Mayville Youth Center purchased a charter bus that can be used by the school. A hockey smoker is being held April 1. The siren project in Buxton still is moving forward. The city of Buxton also has ARPA funds but they're not sure yet what they're going to use them for. They're also looking to add a battery backup to the sewer lift in town. Reidhammer bought the old hardware store and is doing some work on it. A house is for sale outside of town.

Young – Trail County is seeking grant money hopefully for two large bridge projects. The City of Mayville approved its \$16 million paving project.

Moen – There is excitement in Hillsboro surrounding some of the new businesses that are coming. It's nice to have new places to eat, gather and have fun.

Wilson – Galesburg still is having water main breaks. The city is working on grants for a water main. The park committee still is doing a lot of other stuff.

Olson – Has been working on taxes at all hours has no idea what's going on. At Mayville State, 22 of 23 DECA students qualified for nationals.

Phipps – Not a whole lot going on in Hatton but there's an all-school reunion in July. A lot of FBLA students are working on a reunion book as a service project. The car wash was sold.

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Knudsvig – The ditches in Buxton Township are full of water. Central Valley students will be attending the TCEDC job fair.

Hovets – Roads have been a little tough with three blizzards in the last 6-7 days. In Reynolds, the new owners of the Beehive have a lot of events and the café doing well. They’ll be hosting bar Olympics in March or April.

Van Horn – The Mayville episode of “Small Town Big Deal” aired. If you didn’t see it, you might be able to stream it online. Every day he gets multiple texts and emails about it from people across the country. MSU is hosting an active shooter training exercise March 9 and pre-event training March 1.

Nysveen – Hillsboro EDC committed up to \$6,000 for the Olsen Softball Complex lights. The project is awesome for the community; he commended the local softball coach for the work he puts in and said hopefully the whole complex will be lit one day. The City of Hillsboro is having a forum for the potential \$12 million streets project March 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Young moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 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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