

Minutes of Meeting
Trail County Economic Development Commission
July 26, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.
Zoom Video Conference Call

Present: Board members: Cassie Braaten, Roxanne Phipps, Jami Hovet, Judd Wilson, Dustin Olson, Ken Nesvig and Gary Nysveen. Also present: Jim Murphy – Executive Director, Alyssa Short – Deputy Director and Jim Johnson – Traill County Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Nysveen.

Secretary’s report

Hovet moved to accept the June 17, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Olson. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s report/approve checks

Short said the child care grants and a few more beautification mini-grants were paid out and the remaining 2021 beautification grants were paid out. Nesvig moved to receive and approve the treasurer’s report, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

The checks included a grant pass-through from Job Service to Degelman Industries. Short noted some of the payment were sent prior to the meeting due to the regularly scheduled meeting being postponed. Olson moved to approve checks with one signer, seconded by Hovet. Motion carried.

Child care grant applications

Hovet spoke about the recent child care grant request, which was discussed by the marketing committee prior to the board meeting. She said the committee asked for some clarification and an amendment to the request so the expenses are more actual operating costs and helping to increase enrollment. Murphy and Short will follow up with the applicant and the amended request will be reviewed before next month’s board meeting.

Mileage rate

The IRS increased the business mileage rate and Traill County recently followed suit. Phipps moved to increase the mileage rate from \$0.585 per mile to \$0.625 per mile, as of July 1, seconded by Nesvig. Motion carried.

Flex PACE loan request

Murphy said the office had received an inquiry about a possible Flex PACE buydown loan share with MayPort EDC for the renovations on the Nodak Insurance Company building in Mayville. If the request comes in it will come in quickly, and MayPort EDC will take the lead on the loan and do due diligence on the application.



Hovet moved to preapprove a Flex PACE loan share up to \$5,000 for Nodak Insurance Company by way of MayPort EDC, contingent on MayPort EDC approving the buydown, seconded by Braaten. Motion carried.

Lunch and Learn

Murphy and Short have lined up Rikka Brandon, a MPCG and Mayville State grad, to speak Sept. 7 at Mayville State. Brandon is an author and recruitment specialist, and is highly regarded in her field. She has agreed to a one-hour keynote, followed by a 90-minute breakout session, and will give TCEDC a large hometown discount. Murphy is requesting her discounted speaker fee and \$300 to put toward the purchase of books and refreshments, with TUG paying the remainder of the cost. Short noted that TCEDC doesn't plan to charge a ticket fee to encourage as much attendance as possible. Hovet moved to approve up to \$800 to pay Brandon and associated event costs, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried.

Executive Director's report

Murphy and Short are continuing to work with Degelman on the incentives for their expansion, as well as the New Jobs program. They also toured ADS in Buxton to get a better feel for what the company does and the workforce needs with which they're dealing. Murphy and Nysveen also toured RDK in Hillsboro and discussed their expansion. They also spoke with a potential property owner about Flex PACE options on housing or multiuse in the Mayville-Portland area.

They met with a North Dakota livestock group about site selection and mapping in the county, and they have a meeting with the group and Nesvig tomorrow. They're also trying to get a better handle on unlisted properties in the county. Due North in Hatton might be looking for an equipment loan soon, a new flower shop opened in Hillsboro and Murphy and Short had meetings and inquiries about several potential businesses locating in the county, including a possible new ag venture in Hatton.

Jordahl Custom Homes finished its second bank of twinhomes and foundations have been poured for the new twinhomes being constructed in Mayville. The Buxton Park Board is looking at a possible Garrison Diversion grant request, Murphy and Short are trying to find assistance for Clifford's sewer issues and Murphy was in Mayville for a meeting with Congressman Armstrong. He also attended an open house for Sundae Brew in Hillsboro.

Strategic planning update

Murphy says he and Short are continuing to learn and will finish their class in a few weeks. They'll start the process for redoing TCEDC's strategic plan, a process that probably will take the better part of a year.

Community showcase

TCEDC is planning a community showcase tentatively for Nov. 10.

Mayors' summit

TCEDC will be gathering with the county's mayors and a few others, including local lawmakers, to discuss problems, opportunities and solutions. The Aug. 7 event is intended as an idea exchange and a meet and greet for mayors to get to know each other.

Community updates

- Braaten – Mayville started its street project so a bunch of streets are closed. Basements are poured at the site of the new Jordahl twinhomes. The Brend building in downtown Mayville looks really nice. The Delchar has announced that there are “big things in store” involving an adjacent building.
- Olson – Summerfest was a few weeks ago. Gas crews are still working in Portland.
- Hovet – Her natural gas facility fee costs more than her actual usage does right now. She's visited both 3R Floral and Sundae Brew in Hillsboro and has rave reviews of both.
- Wilson – The Galesburg pork butt cookoff will be held Sept. 10. This year's event also will include kickball games, bounce houses and a car show. The frisbee golf course is installed. Everything is coming along well except for water main breaks.
- Phipps – Hatton's July 4 celebration included an all-school reunion, which was well attended.
- Nesvig – The county commission is in the process of working through budget challenges. This is especially challenging with 10 percent inflation. Road crews are busy repairing damage from the spring flooding.
- Nysveen – The new flower shop in Hillsboro also includes gift items for sale, as does the Hillsboro Café. Sundae Brew is open seven days a week and caters to more of a younger crowd. Degelman's construction is moving along. The dirt near the Jordahl twinhomes has been moved back to hopefully make room for more twinhomes in that development. In Hillsboro's Riverwalk Addition, two basements have been dug for new homes and initial site work on the new apartments has started. Congressman Armstrong will be in Hillsboro Aug. 9 for a meeting at Goose River Brewing. The Hillsboro EDC will be working with the city on some type of demolition loan/grant program to demolish delapidated commercial and residential buildings. Hillsboro EDC also will pick up the 5 percent merchant fee on the Christmas Cash program, in addition to its 10 percent bonus contribution.

Trail County EDC – July 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Nesvig moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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