

Minutes of Meeting
Trall County Economic Development Commission
June 16, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.
TCEDC Conference Room/Zoom Video Conference Call

Present: Board members: Judd Wilson, Dustin Olson, Cassie Braaten, Gary Nysveen, Marshall Erickson, Roxanne Phipps, Dr. Brian Van Horn and Craig Moen. Also present: Jim Murphy – Executive Director, Alyssa Short – Deputy Director, Paul Hanson – District 20 legislative candidate, Cole Short – Hillsboro Banner and Jim Johnson – Traill County Tribune.

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

Secretary's report

Erickson moved to accept the May 19, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report/approve checks

Short said one of the 2022 beautification mini-grants already had been paid out and Erickson initiated the \$10,000 transfer from the general fund to the reserve fund. Van Horn moved to receive and approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Olson. Motion carried.

The checks included some travel expenses, including the upcoming EDND summer conference, as well as the check for Absolute for the website updates. Wilson moved to approve checks with one signer, seconded by Van Horn. Motion carried.

Child care grant applications

The Marketing Committee minutes were included in the packet and Van Horn gave a brief recap of the committee's discussion. Short explained the caveats for the grants, and said the board's recommendation was to approve \$18,500 of the designated \$30,000 grant pool, with the contingencies noted by the committee, and with 50 percent payable immediate and 50 percent if the applicants maintain their new enrollments for one year. Van Horn moved to accept the committee's acceptance of the grants, seconded by Phipps. Motion carried.

Braaten moved to approve the 50 percent payout of the checks using billpay, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried.

Executive Director's report

Murphy said the office has had a lot of conversation with Degelman regarding their expansion and various state incentives. He also sent info to several Traill County employers regarding opportunities with the bus plant closure in Pembina. Buxton Daycare is considering an expansion/renovation and had questions about the child care grant. He and Short have been working through questions and projects for Riverwalk, and spoke with a Hatton bank regarding



the new managers of the Hatton Community Club – meaning the new owners also are taking over stewardship of the group's Flex PACE loan. Murphy put Dakota Natural Gas in touch with a Portland business to help discuss gas infrastructure and design, and spoke with the new owners of a Hillsboro hospitality business who likely will be requesting a Flex PACE loan.

Murphy and Short have been working with a Portland-based business that is taking over operations of an existing business; they want to be up and running very quickly, so TCEDC has been helping them with information regarding workforce and incentives. They were successful in helping to procure a \$250,000 ADDF grant for Agassiz Sustainables, in addition to the \$100,000 previously granted through APUC. Murphy spoke with several interested parties about Hardware Hank in Mayville and put a Buxton business in touch with Mayville State for some partnership opportunities.

The office received a call from the Minnesota Vikings asking if TCEDC was interested in advertising in their game program; Murphy said to call back after the Vikings had won a Super Bowl. Murphy conducted an interview with KRJB, and the office got some shout-outs from a radio interview featuring Agassiz Sustainables.

TCEDC has contacted Rikka Brandon about possibly doing a September Lunch & Learn. Murphy and Short spoke with reps from the Hatton Park Board about funding sources for park upgrades, worked on pushing forward the Olsen Softball Complex lights project with the Hillsboro Park District and met with interested parties about adding more outdoor winter rec activities in the county.

Housing around the county updates

Jordahl is getting started on the lots in Mayville. Braaten already is receiving calls from interested renters. Dirt is moving in Hillsboro's Riverwalk Addition and Jordahl hopefully will be digging by July 1 on its first 24-unit apartment building. A number of lots have been sold in Riverwalk.

Strategic planning update

Murphy and Short are taking a course through Oklahoma University since the PIP grant didn't come through to hire someone to do the plan. The cost of tuition is roughly \$1,100 for both.

Website revisions update

Short explained the work done to make the TCEDC website more accurate and updated without so much in-house maintenance. The biggest feature is the self-service job board for employers, and the background content management system that allows them to have a dashboard of their own postings to manage.

Community Showcase

The office has received so many inquiries about Trail County from builders that Murphy and Short are looking at hosting a community showcase in late fall/early winter. Each community would have the opportunity to attend and evangelize their communities to a group of selected builders and developers.

Preliminary budget

Murphy put together a preliminary budget and sent it to the Executive Committee before passing it on to Auditor Haugen. The mill levy numbers still are up in the air so there likely will be changes. Murphy said there were some modest increases in the budget, and Short explained most of them are due to unknown insurance increases for 2023 and the rising cost of supplies and transportation (and virtually everything else).

Community updates

Wilson – The Galesburg Parks committee received a few big grants to finish their field project. The annual pork butt competition will be held in the first part of October.

Olson – No update.

Moen – Hillsboro has a big weekend coming up with Hillsboro Days. The brewery is open and serving food. The golf course looks beautiful. Farmers are done planting, hopefully.

Van Horn – Vice president searches are going on at Mayville State, and the university is hosting the Big Shrine Bowl this weekend.

Erickson – No update.

Braaten – Jordahl has started digging. MayPort Summerfest is next week, along with the MPCG all-school reunion. Riverwood Phase II hasn't progressed much this last month. Tiny Town child care center hopefully is opening in August.

Hershey (via email) – Buxton Improvement Group postponed its Family Fun Day due to lack of committed volunteers. A group of young volunteers is raising money to update a monument in the city park. The City of Buxton received a \$10,000 ARPA grant from Trail County to support a new warning siren. The city also approved a backup generator system for the sewer.

Nysveen – Hillsboro has a new mayor, and Nicole Evans won a write-in commission seat. A flower shop is opening in downtown Hillsboro. The Hillsboro lodging tax committee created a new "More at 104" video to promote Hillsboro tourism.

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Braaten moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Olson. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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