

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
April 2, 2012
Board Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Pierce, Board President 5:15 p.m. Board members present were: Belgard, Clark, and Schumann. Absent: Baarts, Schmidtke, and Grupe. Others present were: Bryan Stading and Jon Herzog, Business Facilitators for Martin County and Scott Higgins, Coordinator, and Jenifer Brookens of the Sentinel.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Schumann to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Schumann, seconded by Belgard to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2012 of the EDA with one correction-delete Pierce and replace with Clark adjourned the meeting of the EDA. Carried unanimously.

Stading and Herzog reviewed the monthly client report for the month of January 2012 with a total of thirty two (32) client sessions for a total of 73.25 hours.

Herzog gave a brief update on the ongoing Business Talk radio show on local radio station KSUM (Fairmont), and gave an update and budget for of the upcoming Business Planning in A Day training session.

Stading gave a brief update on the grant status and partnership with the Small Business Development Center (Mankato) stating that the grant has been awarded, however there are no more details at this point.

Stading and Herzog reviewed the 2011 Annual Report providing some statistical information, stating that there were 36 entrepreneurs consulted, 425 consulting hours completed, five new businesses created, ten businesses stabilized, seven businesses expanded, 27 jobs created or retained, approximately \$2,046, 500 in new investment capital, \$2, 503, 440 in new business revenues, and conducted three business training seminars in the year 2011.

Pierce thanked Stading for the report and stated that this will be presented to the next county Board of Commissioners meeting.

Herzog stated that the first year of the EDA radio program with KFMC/KSUM will expire this month and stated that KSUM will continue the radio program at the same rates as the past year. Herzog presented a proposal from KSUM to the Board for review. The purpose of the radio program is to promote the EDA-IGNITE business consultation services to the general public, and to have a general talk show on economic development featuring local businesses and issues.

Clark stated that the radio program has been effective and stated his support to keep the radio program going. After further discussion,

Motion by Clark, seconded by Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County EDA, due to the success of the past year's radio program and in an effort to continue to promote IGNITE business consultation services and to have provide a general talk show on economic development in the county, hereby approves another year's of monthly programming in the amount of \$3,560 for the term of one year from April 2012-April 2013. Carried unanimously.

There were no bills. Higgins stated that he would send them out via email and include them on the next agenda for approval.

The year to date financial reports were also presented and reviewed by the Board.

Higgins reviewed the Area Career Exploration agenda to be held on April 11, 2012 at the Fairmont High School, reviewed the proposed commuter service to Jackson, MN and Blue Earth, MN, reviewed support letter to SBDC for grant; Higgins reviewed the wind energy production tax 2010-2011 comparisons that are received by counties in Minnesota including Martin County and the benefits of the additional revenue. Higgins presented information listing of a lamp repair business in Fairmont that is for sale and was asked by the owner to give to the EDA Commission, along with other information included in the board packets with the board.

Higgins stated that Linda Meschke, Rural Advantage (Fairmont) has requested that an EDA board member attend an upcoming SHIP meeting.

By consensus the next meeting date will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012, starting at 5:15 p.m. at the Courthouse (Fairmont).

With no further business to wit, Motion by Clark, seconded by Belgard to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.

Chris Pierce, President, MCEDA

Attest: Jerry Clark, Secretary/Treasurer