

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
September 10, 2007
Commissioner Board Room

The meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) was called to order by Chairman Sukalski at 5:25 p.m. Those present were: Pierce, Boler, Kotewa, Sukalski, and Grupe. Others present were Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

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

Motion by Clark, seconded by Kotewa to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2007 meeting. Carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed EDA Bylaws were reviewed. Higgins stated that he has not heard back from MCIT whether the Commission has coverage under the county insurance or would need to purchase separate coverage. By consensus the Commission tabled approval of Bylaws until the insurance matter was clear.

The Commission discussed the potential possibilities if the county were to receive the DEED grant to establish a business facilitation process. Higgins stated that Rex Oberhelman wanted to propose to the Commission that he could be the individual hired to serve as the business facilitator or EDA Director. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Rex Oberhelman's proposal to have the county construct an ethanol facility using switchgrass. Higgins continued that per the RFP contracts should be awarded and in place by September 30th.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion ensued regarding establishment of subcommittees for the Commission.

Pierce stated that the Fairmont Economic Development Authority may be helpful to us.

Clark suggested that the subcommittees consist of individuals from outside the Commission itself, that could bring more expertise to that subcommittee whatever it may be and that the Commission member appointed could serve as the Chair of the committee. Clark further stated that a priority need of the Commission is to get an individual on board to put this together.

Schmidtke stated that the possibilities are open.

By consensus of the Commission it was determined to defer establishing the subcommittee structure and for the Commission to gathering the qualifications and other pertinent job requirements for in order to begin developing a job description for a Facilitator or EDA Director. Higgins will begin gathering this information and put together a draft job description for the Commission to review.

It was also requested if Bryan Stading (RCEF) would have some input as to what EDA's he feels operate very well for future discussions with such EDA's on what has worked for them and has not worked.

Grupe stated that the new person could also be involved with such discussions.

REPORTS

Higgins reminded the Commission members that the Business Retention and Expansion workshop is being held on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 beginning at 9am at the Southern Minnesota Education Campus (SMEC) Lecture hall and to let Scott or Julie know if you are planning on attending. Registrations are due September 14th. Pierce stated that he is planning to attend.

The next meeting was set for Monday, October 8, 2007, at 5:15 pm in the County Board room.

With no further business, Motion by Clark, seconded by Kotewa to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Higgins
Martin County Coordinator