

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
November 8, 2010
Board Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Grupe at 5:20 p.m. Board members present were: Pierce, Clark, and Boler. Absent: Schmidtke, and Sukalski, one position vacant. Other present were: Scott Higgins, County Coordinator and Bryan Stading, RCEF Director, Jon Herzog, Business Facilitator for Martin County, Kay Sauk, Sauk Media.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Pierce to approve the agenda, with the addition of Request from Kay Sauk, Sauk Media. Carried unanimously

Motion by Pierce, seconded by Boler to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2010 regular meeting. Carried unanimously

Sauk requested the need for funding from the EDA. Sauk stated that she is working to re-launch Womeninc and Caring in America Stading magazines. Sauk requested a loan of \$12,000 from the EDA and is needed as soon as possible.

Pierce stated that he would not be in favor to loan our taxpayers dollars.

Boler stated that the EDA could do something in the \$5,000 -\$10,000 range.

After discussion, consensus was that the EDA did not have anything in place to be able to make loans. The objective of the EDA should be connect those who need financing with potential investors.

The Board thanked Sauk for her presentation.

Herzog presented and reviewed the new Client packet that includes information on the IGNITE and services available to the client as well as information on potential financial resources for the client.

Herzog informed the Board that he will be setting up appointments with municipalities and other economic development agencies to provide them with information about the IGNITE business facilitation program available to those who are wishing to start a business as well as existing businesses. Herzog also reviewed the new IGNITE brochure and reviewed the idea of starting a business newsletter for IGNITE.

Nick Nelson arrived at the meeting to give the Board a status update on the proposed Biogas facility that Midwest Biogas has proposed to build in Martin County. Nelson stated that the project has run into permitting issues and obstacles for the project. For the time being the project is on hold in Martin County. However, I do think this is the best place to build such a facility, especially due to the two ethanol facilities located here, which would benefit from our project. Nelson stated that he is focusing the project in Iowa at this time.

Pierce inquired if the hold up was an administrative issue with the MPCA.

Nelson responded that the feedstock we are proposing to use will be new to what the MPCA has seen. Nelson further stated that the company Viola is in the process of guaranteeing the process for production of the biogas. Viola is expected to provide construction management for the project as well.

Clark requested that Nelson provide the Board with a white paper to keep the board informed on what is happening with the project.

Nelson responded that he would do that. Nelson further stated that he will be meeting with Region 9 in obtaining grants in renewable energy.

With no further question, the board thanked Nelson for the update.

Higgins presented and reviewed the bills to be paid October –November 2011.

Motion by Pierce, seconded by Clark to approve payment of bills October/November 2010. Carried unanimously.

Higgins reviewed the year to date budget revenue and expenditure report, cash trial balance and year to date activity of revenue and expenses.

By consensus, the Board set the next meeting for Monday, December 13,, 2010 at 5:15 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse.

Stading reviewed the monthly client report for November.

Grupe stated that Rex Oberhelman would like to be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Martin County EDA Board. It was stated that the County Board of Commissioners make the appointments to the EDA board.

Higgins reviewed the various reports and other information included listed in the board packet.

With no further business to wit,

Motion by Clark, seconded by Pierce to adjourn. Carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41p.m.

Lawrence Sukalski, President, MCEDA

Attest: Chris Pierce, Secretary/Treasurer