

**Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)**  
**March 2, 2015**  
**Board Room-Martin County Courthouse**

The meeting was called to order by Brent Schultze at 5:16 p.m. Board members present were: Elliot Belgard, Jerry Clark, Larry Baarts, and Dan Schmidtke Absent: Randy Grupe, Chris Pierce. Others present: Bryan Stading, Business Facilitator for Martin County EDA, Scott Higgins, County Coordinator, Lindsay, Pruess, Fairmont Economic Development Authority, Mike Murphy, KFMC/KSUM, Rod Halverson, KFMC/KSUM.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Baarts to approve the agenda with one addition- to add the Introduction of Lindsay Pruess. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Belgard to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2015 regular board minutes. Carried unanimously,

Pruess introduced herself to the board and her new role as the City of Fairmont Economic Development Director for the Fairmont Economic Development Authority and gave a brief statement on her background and stated that she looks forward to working with the County EDA.

Pruess gave a brief update of the Brain Gain Project in Martin County stating that the project continues to move forward and working to apply for grant funding for the program.

Mike Murphy presented a proposal for “shop local” radio ad announcements. Murphy stated to reach the majority of KSUM listeners it is best to run such ads 7am, 8am, and Noon times. Such times would be 7am on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s, 8am on Friday’s and during the Noon news report on Monday’s and Wednesday’s and one news report each day Monday through Friday for a total 260 programs. The cost per program is \$20.80 for a total of \$5,408 for the year.

After discussion,

Motion by Clark, seconded by Belgard Be It Resolved that the Martin County EDA in effort to promote a “Shop Local” promotional campaign for Martin County, approves the radio programming proposal submitted by KSUM for 260 program spots at \$20.80 per radio spot for a total of \$5,408 for the year. Carried unanimously.

Stading gave monthly business consultation report for February for a total of 12 sessions for a total of 20.5 hours, in addition gave an update with regard to non-client work, which included work on the Blandin Community Broadband program, testifying on continued funding for business facilitation program (HF 0955), monthly EDA meeting and KSUM radio programming.

Higgins reviewed the grant application that was being submitted to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Incentives Grant Program. The grant request is for \$20,000. If awarded the grant requires a 100% match. Higgins stated that the overall goal of the grant is to improve internet accessibility for business programs, to increase and improve accessibility of available on line education for small businesses throughout the county. Higgins stated that the grant was submitted on February 15, 2015 and recommended ratification on the grant application.

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Baarts, Be It Resolved that the Martin County EDA ratifies the submission of the grant application to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Incentives Grant Program in the amount of \$20,000 for the purpose of improving internet access to local businesses and residents of Martin County, for online education and business programs and for the general public for educational purposes and other general use; and to other objectives as outlined in the grant application; and to provide for the required match if the grant is awarded. Carried unanimously.

Higgins gave a brief update on the Blandin Broadband Communities Program to the Board stating that the second countywide open Broadband meeting was held last month. The results of the meeting were that there were a number of potential projects that came forth from the group. The newly established Broadband Steering Committee will now work to prioritize the proposed project ideas and submit grant application to the Blandin Foundation to bring the projects to fruition. Higgins continued to state that the Blandin Foundation provides grants up to \$100,000 and typically require a 25% match for the grants to include cash or in kind match or a combination of the two options.

Higgins presented the bills to be paid on March 2, 2015 in the amount of \$855.13.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Schmidtke, to approve payment of bills as presented to be paid on March 2, 201 in the amount of \$855.13. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly CY2015 YTD Financial Statements.

Higgins reviewed the information included in the agenda packets including the agenda for the upcoming Area Career Exploration (ACE) event to be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Fairmont High School; letter received from the Blandin Foundation for \$1,000 grant to offset expenses for Blandin Broadband meetings; Blandin Broadband Communities Vision Meeting summary held on February 24<sup>th</sup>; legislative proposal for Entrepreneurial Development Funding (HF 955 and SF 787).

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2015 at 5:15pm in the Board room (Martin County Courthouse).

With no further business to wit,

Motion by Clark, seconded by Baarts to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6.00 pm.

---

Chris Pierce, President, MCEDA

---

Brent Schultze, Secretary/Treasurer