

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
August 1, 2016
Martin County Courthouse, Fairmont, MN

The meeting was called to order by Randy Grupe at 5:16 p.m. Board members present were: Elliot Belgard, Larry Baarts, Brent Schultze, Jerry Clark and Dan Schmidtke. Absent: Chris Pierce. Others present: Scott Higgins, County Coordinator, Bryan Stading, RCEF, Rod Halverson, KFMC/KSUM and Lee Smith, Fairmont Sentinel.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Baarts to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Clark to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 and July 11, 2016 meetings. Carried unanimously.

Stading gave the monthly business consultation report for July 2016 with 16 business facilitation sessions totaling 35 hours.

Stading informed the Board that Terra Gen is looking to bring a wind turbine project into Martin County. Terra Gen is working to set up Met towers for purpose of determining the wind energy in the project area, and will be hosting a meeting with landowners in the project area in Sherburn, MN on August 10, 2016 at 6:30pm at the Sherburn Theater.

Stading also informed the board that there will be an event called "Green Seam" to be held here in Martin County. It is a new marketing brand that used to be "From the Ground Up". Stading indicated that the event is by invitation.

Higgins reviewed the CY2017 EDA preliminary budget to the board, stating that the preliminary budget increase from CY2016 is \$21,698, which equates to an increase of 36.74% over CY2016. The proposed preliminary levy is \$80,750.00.

There was much discussion regarding the CY2017 preliminary budget request, particularly on the increase in Professional and Technical budget line item, which the proposed increase was nearly \$9,000, and the Promotions budget line item of approximately \$17,000. The promotional line items included contribution to ACE, Martin County Leadership Program, Radio Programming, and Ag events. By consensus the board reduced the budget by total of \$12,000.

Clark asked that the revised budget with reductions be presented at the next meeting for review.

Higgins presented and reviewed the bills.

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Belgard to ratify and approve the bills from July 12, 2016-August 1, 2016 in the amount of \$330.49, with noted correction the bill payment to KFMC/KSUM was listed in previous bill payments at \$767.80, which needed to be changed to \$470.80. Carried unanimously.

Higgins gave an update on the countywide broadband feasibility study, including a broadband build out project in Martin County, with the county partnering with Frontier Communications, Inc. for a Border to Border grant through DEED-Office of Broadband to help fund the project.

The Board reviewed the monthly CY2016 YTD Financial Statements for June 2016 and monthly activity report. Higgins stated that the fund balance as of end of July 2016 is \$250,099.52.

Higgins reviewed the general information in the board packets, which included Martin County Fair Booth sign up, Fairmont Area Convention and Visitor's 2016 Bureau Key Initiative listing, Sherburn Civic and Commerce request letter for donations for playground equipment in Centennial South Park in Sherburn, Broadband Steering Committee meeting scheduled for August 16th to review the final report countywide broadband study, and a copy Zierke Tax Abatement public hearing notice.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2016 at 5:15pm, Martin County Courthouse (Fairmont, MN).

With no further business to wit, Pierce declared the meeting adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Randy Grupe, Board Vice-President

Attest: Brent Schultze, Secretary/Treasurer