

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
September 14, 2015
Board Room-Martin County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Chris Pierce at 5:15 p.m. Board members present were: Elliot Belgard, Larry Baarts, Randy Grupe and Dan Schmidtke Absent: Jerry Clark, Brent Schultze. Others present: Bryan Stading, Business Facilitator for Martin County EDA, Scott Higgins, County Coordinator and Desiree Diaz, Reporter Fairmont Sentinel.

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

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Baarts to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2015 regular board minutes. Carried unanimously,

Pierce gave a brief update on the Brain Gain project in Martin County, stating that there will be an upcoming meeting with the staff from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation to discuss the Brain Gain project.

Stading gave monthly business consultation report for August 2015 totaling ten (10) sessions for 26 hours; in addition gave an update with regard to non-client work, which included work on the Blandin Community Broadband grant programs, KSUM radio programming, and update on the Martin County Fair.

Higgins gave an update on the Blandin projects that are in progress, stating that PC's For People project is well underway and is expected to be held on October 8th, 6-8pm at the Fairmont Elementary School cafeterias. PC's for People give away computers to eligible families and individuals. This is a countywide event. Higgins stated that the Martin County Broadband Steering Committee is working to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an engineering firm to conduct a countywide broadband feasibility study. The Committee is scheduled for their second meeting on September 29th. Higgins stated that the "App Camp" was a big success. The participants were at the Fair showing the newly developed app to the public. Higgins stated that the Technology Training sessions will soon be published in the newspapers and the Fairmont CER magazine. These sessions are open to the public and will be provide one hours training sessions throughout the county to teach users how to use apps, social media, skype, basic computer skills, etc. The Wi-Fi project installing public Wi-Fi hot spots throughout the county has yet to meet. Higgins encouraged the board to be a part of the planning of the event and the distribution day.

Higgins presented and reviewed the proposed CY2016 EDA budget, stating that the preliminary budget has been revised since the last board meeting. The expenses are projected to be \$\$59,406, which would require a tax levy of \$59,406. There are no additional revenues projected for CY2016. Higgins stated that the major increases include approximately \$9,000 for radio proگرامing, and \$17,000 increase in consulting fees

After further discussion,

Motion by Baarts, seconded by Grupe to approve and recommend the CY2016 Preliminary budget to the County Board of Commissioners in the amount of \$59, 406 in expenditures and tax levy request of \$59, 406. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented the bills to be paid on August 4, 2015-September 14, 2015 in the amount of \$9,456.09.

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Baarts, to approve payment of bills as presented to be paid for August 4, 2015-September 14, 2015 in the amount of \$9,456.09. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly CY2015 YTD Financial Statements. Higgins stated that the fund balance as of end of August 2015 is \$244,721.60.

Higgins reviewed the general information included in the board packets, App Camp newspaper articles, MCIT estimated 2016 contribution renewals for liability insurance coverage, invitation to the SMIF Annual Luncheon, award letter from Blandin Foundation for in the amount of \$20,000 for countywide feasibility study, and informational brochure on the new Community Calendar.

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

With no further business to wit,

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Chris Pierce, MCEDA Board President

Brent Schultze, MCEDA Secretary/Treasurer