

Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)
November 9, 2015
Board Room-Martin County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Brent Schultze at 5:17 p.m. Board members present were: Elliot Belgard, Larry Baarts, and Dan Schmidtke Absent: Randy Grupe, Jerry Clark, and Chris Pierce. Others present: Bryan Stading, Business Facilitator for Martin County EDA, Scott Higgins, County Coordinator, and Desiree Diaz, Reporter Fairmont Sentinel.

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

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Schmidtke to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2015 regular board minutes. Carried unanimously,

Jerrad Juhl and Marty Juhl, owners of Custom Computers and Software (Sherburn, MN) gave a presentation of their business and stated the need for a building facility in order to expand their business. The company puts together labeling machines for restaurants, provides the warranty and support for the machines as well. Order are increasing and expected to increase greatly, therefore additional employees are needed soon. There was discussion on potential buildings available throughout the county. Stading will continue to work with the business and follow up to find a building facility for the business.

Stading gave monthly business consultation report for October 2015 totaling fifteen (15) sessions for 39.5 hours; in addition gave an update with regard to non-client work, which included update on the monthly EDA newsletter, continued work on the Blandin Community Broadband grant programs, KSUM radio programming.

Higgins gave an update on the Blandin projects that are in progress, stating that PC's For People project was held on October 8th, 6-8pm at the Fairmont Elementary School cafeterias. PC's for People gave away computers to eligible families and individuals and was a great success. It is expected that second event will be held in Martin County, possibly through the school districts in the county. Higgins stated that the Martin County Broadband Steering Committee is working to finalize the Request for Proposal (RFP) for an engineering firm to conduct a countywide broadband feasibility study. Higgins stated that recently a coding camp was held October 26-November 10, 2015 at the Fairmont School and was a big success. The classes were included fifth and sixth graders from Fairmont Elementary, St John Vianney, St Paul Lutheran School, St. James Lutheran School in Northrup, MN. There are sixteen students enrolled in the class. It is expected that there will be future coding classes held in Truman and Martin County West School districts next year. Higgins stated that the Technology Training sessions continue to be held at venues throughout the county. These technology training 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. John Landsteiner and Rita Craven are the instructors for these training sessions. The Wi-Fi project installing public Wi-Fi hot spots throughout the county has yet to meet.

Higgins presented the bills to be paid on October 6, 2015-November 9, 2015 in the amount of \$1,045.55.

Motion by Schmidtke, seconded by Baarts, to approve payment of bills as presented to be paid for October 6, 2015-November 9, 2015 in the amount of \$1,045.55. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly CY2015 YTD Financial Statements and monthly activity report. Higgins stated that the fund balance as of end of October 2015 is \$238,822.74.

Higgins reviewed the general information included in the board packets, which included a letter from MCIT regarding 2014 annual report and thank you letter from the Fairmont Chamber of Commerce for support of the Top 20 Program.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 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 6:20 pm.

Brent Schultze, MCEDA Secretary/Treasurer

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator