

**Board Minutes of the
Martin County EDA
August 1, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by Brent Schultze at 5:15 pm. Those present were: Wes Anderson, Steve Fosness, Elizabeth Miller, Richard Koons and Elliot Belgard. Absent: Tim Terfehr. Also, present were Jeff Rouse and Bryan Stading, CEDA(consultant) and Josh Schuetz, CEDA (consultant).

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Anderson, to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of May 2, 2022 and June 6, 2022 meetings, with correction to the June 6, 2022 minutes that Tim Terfehr was present. Carried unanimously.

Stading reviewed the final Annual EDA report with the Board.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Miller Be It Resolved that the Martin County EDA, after review of the 2021 Annual Report, hereby approve the Annual Report; and to receive and file the report; and to direct staff to present the report to the Martin County Board of Commissioners. Carried unanimously.

Stading reviewed the monthly client report for June 2022 and July 2022.

Rouse presented an update on the “Going Hog Wild in Martin County promotion and inquired if the EDA Board would like to provide a second sponsorship of the promotion in the amount of \$2, 100. The second round will provide 36 plus concrete hog statues as an attraction to locals and visitors to the county.

After further consideration,

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Schultze, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Economic Development Authority, hereby approve the expenditure of \$2, 100 for Phase 2 as a Title Sponsor per the “Going Hog Wild in Martin County” Mission and Contract Agreement for Fairmont, “Title Sponsor. Carried unanimously.

Rouse presented and reviewed sponsorship request for the EDA opportunity to promote itself through locally produced television show through Our Story Productions called “Martin County on TV” (Season 4) There are five different sponsorships (listed in attachment). The basic annual sponsorship is \$150.

The request was tabled.

The EDA is being asked to consider a letter of support for the proposed Frontiers Communications , Inc broadband project in Martin County to include in their Border-to-Border Grant Application for the project.mAttached is a map of the locations that would be impacted by our proposed project, as denoted by the blue icons in the Northrop, Fairmont, and Ceylon areas (the big red dots are fiber distribution nodes). This project would deploy fiber optic cable to the customer premises, and bring 2Gig symmetrical service to over 500 locations in those areas. Applications are due to be filed with the state by August 4. The letter of support will be

beneficial as the state scores and ranks the applications it receives, and makes final decisions on which projects to fund.

After further discussion,

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Belgard Be It Resolved that the Martin County EDA approve an authorizes the Board President to sign a letter of support to Frontier Communications, Inc to the Minnesota Border to Border Grant Program Application for a proposed broadband project in Martin County. Carried unanimously.

Stading review the final DEED Grant report for SPAP-19-0017-P-FY20 (RCEF) with the Board.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Koons Be It Resolved that the Martin County Economic Development Authority, approves the final report for the DEED grant SPAP-19-0017-P-FY20 (RCEF) to be submitted to the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Carried unanimously.

As the Board is aware, the Board recommended to the Martin County Board to approve a contract for EDA consultation services with Community Economic Developers Association (CEDA), effective August 1, 2022.

The Board is being asked to ratify the CEDA Service Agreements, effective August 1, 2022-December 31, 2022, in the amount of \$37,350 (\$7, 470/month), at an average of 40 hours per week for consultant services. The scope of services to be provided are listed in the contract. The agreement has a termination clause allowing the contract to be terminated with a 30-day written notice to CEDA or vice versa.

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Belgard, Be It Resolved That the Martin County EDA, with the approval by the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby ratify and authorize the Martin County EDA Board President to sign the Contract for Professional Services from CEDA, effective August 1, 2022-December 31, 2022 for the amount of \$37, 350 (\$7, 470/month) for the term of the contract; at an average of 40 hours per week for consultant services. Carried unanimously.

Stading gave a brief update on the status of CEDA and office location in the Courthouse.

The CY2023 proposed preliminary budget request was reviewed by the Board.

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Anderson, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Economic Development Authority approved and recommend to the Martin County Board of Commissioners the proposed CY2022 preliminary budget in the amount of \$125,511 in expenditure and revenue in the amount of \$125,511 (tax levy). This is an increase in budget request of \$29, 960 from CY2022 Budge (\$95,551) and levy from \$76, 691 (2022) to \$125, 511 (proposed 2023), due mainly to the hire CEDA for EDA consultation services. Carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding the sale of Bean Town restaurant in Fairmont and ways the EDA could help in assisting the sale of the restaurant.

After further discussion,

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Economic Development Authority, in consideration in assisting a local business particularly for the sale of the Bean Town restaurant in Fairmont, MN, in order to assist in keeping the business open with a new owner, hereby approve the expenditure of \$2, 500 for successful completion of the sale of the aforementioned business through the Martin County EDA, Carried unanimously.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Fosness to approve and ratify the bills for June 7, 2022-August 1, 2022 in the amount of \$20,560.65. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the EDA monthly financial report for June 2022 and July 2022.

Letter of support to BevComm for Border-to-Border broadband project in Martin County; and termination notice to RCEF for consulting services.

With no further business to wit,

Meeting was adjourned.

Brent Schultze, Board President

Tim Terfehr, Board Secretary/Treasurer