

MEETING MINUTES LANGLADE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Monday, February 19, 2018

Members Present: Thomas Bauknecht, Brady Koss, Pete Pennington, Andy Merry, Mike Bernatz, Bill Brandt, Steve Wilder, Carol Feller-Gottard, Warren Wagner
Members Excused: Fred Westphal, Tom Gallenberg
Others Present: Angie Close, Keri Beck

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 a.m. by President Brady Koss.

Public Comment: None

Minutes of Previous Economic Development Board Meeting: Motion by Pennington, second by Wagner, to approve the minutes from January 15, 2018. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Bauknecht, second by Wilder to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Closed Session: At 4:31 PM, motion by Wilder, second by Bauknecht, to move into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Section 19.85 (1) (e), to review current status of revolving and community development loans. Roll call vote. 9 Ayes. Motion Carried.

Open Session: At 4:47 PM, motion by Pennington, second by Merry to return to open session. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Discussion only on revolving and community development loans. No action taken.

Approve LCEDC Budget vs Actual Report: Close reviewed the LCEDC Budget vs Actual report. Kerber Rose will be on site for the 2017 review on February 21. Recommended adjustments will be made at the March meeting.

Motion by Brandt, second by Wilder to approve the LCEDC Expense vs Budget report as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Update on Langlade County Economic Development Strategic Planning Process: Close presented an overview of economic strategies in Antigo and Langlade County dating back to 2005.

Approve Strategic Plan Proposal by Pharos Management LLC Management Consulting Firm: Koss presented Pharos Management LLC proposal to the LCEDC Board.

Motion by Brandt, second by Merry to approve Pharos Management LLC contractor agreement as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Economic Development Corporation:

- a. **LCEDC Initiative Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Board on the following initiatives:
 - Entrepreneur Training Program:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that the Entrepreneurial Training Program will be starting on March 22 with the Orientation Day on March 8. Fourteen people attended the first of four Business Education Programs that was held February 15.
 - Broadband:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that the Broadband committee met. Cirrinity has submitted an application to extend broadband from Hollister to the Pickerel/Pearson area. Close is working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, County Highway Department, and Public Service Commission to place conduit under the Highway 52 bridge so that in the future broadband can be extended to the Lily tower at a reduced cost of getting fiber past the Wolf River. Angie Dickenson, director of the Public Service Commission, will be at the Broadband meeting on March 8 to help guide the committee on moving Langlade County's broadband forward.
 - Education:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that Close and Beck presented the City of Antigo Destination Assessment information to students at the Antigo High School during Pride Time. The high school students' answers will be shared at the next Destination Assessment Task Force meeting. LCEDC staff will continue working with the students throughout the semester to creating a marketing plan for the City of Antigo.
- b. **UW Extension Business & Entrepreneurship Your Economy Time Series Data Presentation Date Reminder:** Close reminded the LCEDC Board that Mark Lange from UW-Extension will be presenting Langlade County economy information at March 19 LCEDC Board meeting.
- c. **Discuss LCEDC Upcoming Events and Activities:** Beck informed the LCEDC Board about the January/February 2018 Badger Sportsman Magazine article and ad on winter activities in Langlade County. Beck informed the LCEDC Board about the Facebook campaign that ran February 5-9 to promote February events in Langlade County. The post reached over 23,000 people.

Old Business: Close informed the LCEDC Board about Assembly Bill 912 if passed by the Senate would make yearly funds available for economic development operations in rural areas.

Future Agenda Items and set date for next meeting: Next LCEDC Board meeting date will be March 19, 2018, at 4:30 pm.

Adjourn: Motion by Brandt, second by Bauknecht to adjourn at 5:10 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brady Koss, President

Handwritten signature of Brady Koss, consisting of a stylized 'B' with a subscript '2', followed by 'K' and 'L'.