

**MEETING MINUTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 4, 2020**

Members Present: Thomas Bauknecht, Ron Nye, Lynn D'Amato, Andy Merry (arrived at 4:08 pm), Angel Zimmerman (arrived at 4:19 pm)

Excused Absent:

Others Present: Angie Close, Keri Beck

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Thomas Bauknecht at 4:00 pm. Roll call attendance.

LCEDC staff acknowledged that the meeting is to be recorded for minute purposes.

Public Comment: None

Minutes of Previous Economic Development Executive Committee Meeting: Motion by Nye, second by D'Amato, to approve the minutes from February 3, 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Langlade County Economic Development Corporation:

- A. **Review LCEDC Board Member Terms:** Close reviewed the LCEDC Board and Bylaws term limits. Dillon Gretzinger is finishing Steve Wilder's 6-year term ending 12/31/2020. Dillon is interested in serving one more term on the LCEDC Board of Directors if permitted. Close reviewed the By-Laws with the Executive Board.
Motion by Bauknecht, second by D'Amato to recommend to the LCEDC Board to approve Gretzinger to serve one additional term (3-year) ending 12/31/2023 on the LCEDC Board of Directors. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- B. **Discuss Annual Meeting and Election of Officers:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that the City of Antigo and Langlade County's reorganizational meeting are after the LCEDC Annual Board meeting. LCEDC annual meeting with elections will be moved to the June 15 LCEDC Board meeting. Kerber Rose will present the LCEDC financial review at the June meeting. LCEDC will invite a guest speaker from Rural Prosperity in the fall that was originally scheduled to speak at the annual meeting.
- C. **Budget vs. Actual Report:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on the LCEDC 2020 budget vs expense report. The presented budget vs. actual report includes miscellaneous revenue income account for LCEDC reimbursements received and additional advertising expense accounts to track destination tourism marketing. The emergency fund transfer will be done after the financial review is completed. LCEDC has applied for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) through BMO Harris Bank and Intuit. Close applied through BMO first but the information was in a Que. BMO recommended applying through other entities. Intuit has confirmed application was received but nothing has been awarded. If LCEDC does receive the PPP, LCEDC staff has tracking set up as the money can only be spent on payroll. Information only.
- D. **LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund Recipients Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that one LCEDC RLF request for deferment was received. Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that Northern Steels equipment auction has been completed. The money received from the auction will be applied to their LCEDC RLF loan with the remaining balance written off to close out the loan. Per LCEDC council, if any money is received from a pending bankruptcy of one of personal guarantee of the loan, this money would be applied to the written off amount. Information Only.
- E. **LCEDC Emergency Loan Fund Recipients Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that LCEDC has received 3 completed Small Business-Emergency Response Loan (SB-ERL) applications. Two SB-ERL have been awarded and one loan was distributed. The other awardee declined the SB-ERL as other funding was secured. The Loan Review Board is reviewing one completed SB-ERL application. LCEDC staff has received two incomplete applications and two information inquires. LCEDC will be marketing the SB-ERL.
- F. **LCEDC Strategic Plan Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that the LCEDC Strategic Plan may change slightly but is still applicable. According to the Job Center of Wisconsin, Langlade County's unemployment rate in March 2020 was 4.8% and currently at 9.8% which is lower than Wisconsin's 16.8% unemployment rate.
- G. **LCEDC Entrepreneur Program Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that two ETP business plans will be reviewed at the June LCEDC Executive Committee as two of the other business plans presented are not eligible as they are outside of Langlade County. Two other ETP students will be taking the class in the fall due to COVID-19.
- H. **Discuss Wellness Plan and Approve Partial Payment for March 2020:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that due to the COVID-19 restrictions on fitness facilities, LCEDC staff was only able to have certified wellness facility for half of March.
Motion by Merry, second by Bauknecht to recommend to the LCEDC Board to approve LCEDC staff half Wellness benefits for March 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- I. **Langlade County Tourism Update:** Beck updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that the week of May 3-9 is National Travel & Tourism week in which economic impact numbers are shared. Langlade County had an increase in visitor spending to \$48.8 million in 2019. The Langlade County Tourism Council has been formed, but is still looking for a Pickerel/Pearson area representative. The role of the tourism council is to develop a Langlade County destination marketing plan. The first meeting will be next week. LCEDC staff has been

participating in webinars to stay up to date on tourism recovery after the COVID 19 restrictions are lifted. Beck has been working with federal, state, and local entities to keep the trail report update with COVID-19 and spring break up closures.

- J. **Update on Economic Development Corporation Activities:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that LCEDC staff has been working with state economic development and tourism entities. Close explained WMC's Back to Business Plan proposal and WEDC's Focus Forward information to assist businesses prepare for economic COVID-19 recovery. The City of Antigo Downtown CDBG project will be starting soon. The pre-construction meeting will be held this week. The Langlade County Historical Society is starting their addition project.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business & Meeting Date: The next meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Monday, June 1, 2020.

Adjourn: Motion by Merry, second by Bauknecht to adjourn at 4:42 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Keri Beck, Recording Secretary

Paul A. Merry
6/9/20