

## MEETING MINUTES LANGLADE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Monday, September 27, 2021

**Members Present:** Thomas Bauknecht, Ron Nye, Bill Brandt, Dave Krochalk

**Members Present by Conferenced:** Lynn D'Amato, Fred Westphal, Joel Zalewski

**Members Excused:** Dillon Gretzinger, Michael Hunter, Sarah Koszarek, Angel Zimmerman

**Others Present:** Angie Close, Keri Beck

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Vice-President Thomas Bauknecht.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Minutes of Previous Economic Development Board Meeting:** Motion by Krochalk, second by Nye to approve the minutes from June 7, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Brandt, second by Krochalk to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Closed Session:** At 4:31 PM, motion by Nye, second by Krochalk, to move into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. Section 19.85 (1) (e), to review a Langlade County Economic Development Loan request, review a current loan subordination request and amendment and to review current Revolving Loan Fund status and to review current loan recipients. Roll call vote. 7 Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Open Session:** At 4:53 PM, motion by Nye, second Brandt by to return to open session. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Action 1:** Motion by Brandt, second by Krochalk, to support the Loan Review Board recommendation on the Christopher and Bethany Fuller's Revolving Loan Fund working capital loan request for the purchase of Fullers Sales and Service. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Action 2:** Motion by Brandt, second by Nye, to approve the amendment request by KB Hardwood's to release James Klement and Curtis Klement collateral contingent upon James Klement's portion of the loan being paid in full and all signatures on emended Loan Agreement. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Information only on the current Revolving Loan Fund status and current loan recipients. No action taken.

### **Economic Development Corporation:**

a) **Approve LCEDC Budget vs Actual Report & Financial Statements Update:** Close reviewed the LCEDC budget vs actual report and financial statement. The Paycheck Protection Program Loan is still in the forgiveness phase but LCEDC has not received the forgiveness letter.

**Motion by Brandt, second by Bauknecht to approve the LCEDC budget vs actual report and financial statement as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.**

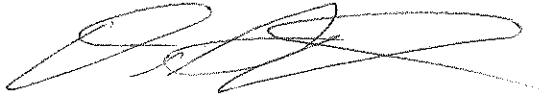
- b) **State, Federal, and Local business Grants update:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that LCEDC staff have been staying connected with Langlade County business on grant opportunities. Langlade County business have received over \$27 million of grant money through various grants (Restaurant Revitalization, Paycheck Protection Program, and WEDC Phase I & Phase II). In the last two months, LCEDC staff has written eight (8) acknowledgement letters for the WEDC Mainstreet Bounce Back Grant for vacant spaces. The grant is open until June or the money runs out. In addition, LCEDC has received seventeen (17) applications for the CDBG – Coronavirus Microenterprise Business Assistance Program. Once paperwork is approved by DEHCR, the grant money can be disbursed. Brandt acknowledged LCEDC staff dedication on helping Langlade County businesses.
- c) **LCEDC 2021 and 2022 Budget Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that the LCEDC Executive Committee is reviewing the 2022 budget. In 2022, there should be additional funding due to three grants – Community Navigator Grant, Destination Marketing Organization Grant Program, and CDBG – Coronavirus Microbusiness Grant administration. Grant awards will be announced in October. Final LCEDC budget approval will be at November Board meeting.
- d) **Langlade County Economy Update:** Close reported to the LCEDC Board that Langlade County economy is doing great, but the supply chain and workforce is low. Close is working with the City on workforce attraction strategies. Close shared that Wausau Chamber is holding a webinar to learn more about Refugee Resettlement Program on October 7. Close informed the LCEDC Board that she has been working with the City and area entities affected by the potential mandate for COVID testing of businesses with more than 100 employees. Rural areas will not be able to handle the testing requirements.
- e) **Tourism Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that the Welcome Center is transitioning to winter hours, but the center is going well. The 2022 plan is being developed. LCEDC is working with the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber on the 2022 Visitor Guide. Brandt stressed on getting the Visitor Guide out in December. The City of Antigo Hotel/Motel Commission wanted LCEDC to work with the Chamber, but the Commission will be designating the tourism entity in June of 2022. The Langlade County Historical Society Museum and Welcome Center Open House will be held on October 20 from 5-7 pm.
- f) **Discuss LCEDC Upcoming Events and Activities:** Zalewski informed the LCEDC Board on interest of a multi-use sport facility/community center in Antigo. Close toured with a local facility with the Unified School District of Antigo staff and board member. A feasibility study of the local needs and the facility would need to be done.

**Old Business:** No old business was discussed.

**Future Agenda Items and set date for next meeting (action item):** No future agenda items were brought forward. The next LCEDC Board meeting date is to be November 15, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Brandt, second by Krochalk to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Bauknecht, Vice President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Bauknecht', with a stylized flourish at the end.