

**MEETING MINUTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
October 4, 2021**

**Members Present:** Thomas Bauknecht, Ron Nye  
**Members Present by Conference:** Sarah Koszarek  
**Members Excused:** Dillon Gretzinger, Angel Zimmerman, Lynn D'Amato  
**Others Present:** Angie Close, Keri Beck

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes of Previous Economic Development Executive Committee Meeting:** Motion by Nye, second by Koszarek, to approve the minutes from September 13, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Langlade County Economic Development Corporation:**

- A. Review and Approve Payments of Bills:** Close reviewed the September 2021 LCEDC bills with the LCEDC Executive Committee.
- Motion by Koszarek, second by Nye to recommend to the LCEDC Board under the consent agenda to approve the September 2021 LCEDC invoices as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.**
- B. Review and Approve Budget vs Actual & Financial Reports:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on the current LCEDC 2021 budget vs actual. Certain budget line items are currently over budgeted. Line item transfers will be discussed at the November LCEDC Executive Committee.
- C. LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund Recipients Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on RLF, CDF, and ER-RLF loans. One of the partners of the KB Hardwood loan has paid in full. The Loan Review Board will be meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> to review a loan requested. The request of the RLF loan would be contingent upon other financial financing if approved by the LRB.
- D. Review 2022 LCEDC Budget:** Close reviewed a 2022 LCEDC draft budget with the LCEDC Executive Committee. A final budget will be presented in November to LCEDC Executive Committee and recommended to the LCEDC Board. Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on the status of LCEDC being the grant administrator for the City of Antigo EDA Grant. The City of Antigo City Council will vote on the grant administrator at October Council meeting.
- E. Broadband Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that there is a delay in the PSC decision on awarding broadband grants. Wittenberg Telephone Company/Cirrinity has submitted a broadband grant application for Langlade County to lay fiber to two communication towers that will provide up to 158 residents and 13 businesses and allow the county to have one fiber network controlling its valuable Emergency Medical Services network. The delay is due to the fact they received more application than anticipated. Grant award will be announced later in October. Close is working with Joe Martell on broadband mapping.
- F. State, Federal, and Local Business Grants Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee the Neighborhood Investment Fund Grant has been released but applications are due November 4. Close is looking into projects that would be eligible. Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that 10 Langlade County businesses submitted Mainstreet Bounce Back applications. LCEDC office has been the most successful with businesses submitted the Mainstreet applications. The third CDBG-CV Micro Enterprise Business Grant public hearing was held. Close is working with DEHCR to get the CDBG grants approved. Close is working with the Wisconsin Counties Association on understanding the uses of ARPA funds.
- G. Entrepreneurs Program Update:** Close updated that LCEDC Executive Committee that the Fall 2021 Entrepreneurial Training Program (ETP) Orientation has seven people in person and two virtual people taking the fall ETP Class. Class started on September 23. Graduation will be November 18. Business plans will be presented at the December LCEDC Executive Committee meeting. GRID recognized LCEDC as an entrepreneurial program model. LCEDC has graduated 72 people since 2015.
- H. Langlade County Tourism Update:** Beck updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on the following items:
- **Welcome Center:** The Langlade County Historical Society Museum and Welcome Center's open house is October 20 from 5-7 pm. Dedication of Antigo as an Ice Age Trail Community will be held in conjunction with the Open House. Ceremony will be held at 5:30 pm.
  - **Travel Wisconsin Reports:** The hiking and biking reports on TravelWisconsin.com is still active but not visible on their home page as the Fall Color Report is live. LCEDC staff is still updating all reports.
  - **Marketing:** LCEDC continued the social media campaign promoting Langlade County fall colors.
  - **Visitor Guide:** LCEDC staff is working with the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber of Commerce on the 2022 Langlade County Visitor Guide.
- I. Update on Any Other Economic Development Corporation Activities:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee there is a public hearing for the CDBG 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Project. Langlade County businesses need workforce. Close has received information on an October 7 webinar to learn more about resettlement communities to receive Afghan refugees. Catholic Charities out of Green Bay is the contact for these refugees in Langlade County. Close presented information she learned at the WEDA Conference on "How to Win the War on Talent." Her take away was "Are you selling to your customers the same way your advertising for employees?"

**Old Business:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that Zimmerman's LCEDC Board term expires on December 31, 2021. Close reminded the LCEDC Executive Committee to send Gretzinger Close's Executive Directors evaluations.

**New Business & Meeting Date:** The next LCEDC Executive Committee meeting will be at 4:00 pm on November 1, 2021.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Nye, second by Bauknecht to adjourn at 4:56 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Keri Beck, Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas Bauknecht". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text of the recording secretary's name.