

## MEETING MINUTES LANGLADE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Monday, August 15, 2022

**Members Present:** Thomas Bauknecht, Warren Wagner, Dillon Gretzinger, Joel Zalewski, Sarah Koszarek, Sally Mulhollon

**Members Present by Conferenced:** Fred Westphal

**Members Excused:** Michael Hunter, Lynn D'Amato, Bill Brandt, Tammy Walrath

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

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

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Minutes of Previous Economic Development Board Meeting:** Motion by Wagner, second by Gretzinger to approve the minutes from May 16, 2022. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Wagner, second by Zalewski to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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

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

**Action 1:** Motion by Zalewski, second by Koszarek, to approve. contingent upon the Loan Review Board recommendation, a LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund request from 111 Alliance, LLC not to exceed \$100,000 for a working capital loan with terms determined by the Loan Review Board. All ayes. Motion carried.

### TERMS:

- To be determined by Loan Review Board: See Loan Review Board Meeting Minutes

### Security

- 2nd REM to CoVantage Credit Union on the building located at 400 Prosser Place, Antigo, WI 54409
- 2nd REM to CoVantage Credit Union on a General Business Security Agreement
- Personal guarantees from Brian Mattmiller and Trevor McCarthy

### Matching Funds:

- \$450,000 match from CoVantage Credit Union
- \$200,000 owner cash (Brian Mattmiller and Trevor McCarthy)

**Payment Amount:** Monthly approx. \$1,077.22 amortized at 10-years with a balloon due in 7-years.

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

### Economic Development Corporation:

- a) **Approve LCEDC Budget vs Actual Report:** Close reviewed the LCEDC budget vs actual report with LCEDC Board. The grant administration income maybe lower than anticipated due to the EDA project delayed this year. SBA Navigator, CDBG-CV, and CDBG PF grant administration has been or will be received this year.

**Motion by Gretzinger, second by Zalewski to approve the LCEDC budget vs actual report as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.**

- b) **LCEDC SBA Paycheck Protection Loan Update:** Close updated with the LCEDC Board that a written letter has been received forgiving LCEDC's paycheck protection loan.
- c) **2022 Fall Entrepreneurial Training Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that the Fall 2022 ETP class will be held on Thursdays at 5:30 to 8:30 pm from September 22 to November 17. The orientation day will be on Thursday, September 8 starting at 5:30 pm. Jeff Ebel will be the instructor. Close was on the Breakfast Club and advertising has been placed in the Antigo Times. The LCEDC Entrepreneurial Program has graduated 99 students since 2015. The Spring 2022 ETP Start-Up grants to Best Plumbing (\$3,000), Urban Pearl (\$1,500), and Spoon Cheese (\$500) was award under the consent agenda.
- d) **LCEDC Broadband Commission Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that LCEDC Broadband Commission has started. The group is drafting a mission and goals. The goals are to work on public safety/EMS system, then connecting town halls for voting, and eventually residents of the county and city. Joe Martel, Langlade County's GIS Coordinator, is helping with mapping of the county. Cirrinity was awarded a \$1.3 million PSC grant for 65-miles of fiber to 528 homes with 10 MB capabilities in the Towns of Rolling, Norwood, and Polar. This is a \$2.7 million project. Wagner mentioned that the equipment is in for the NRG and Kent Towers.

- e) **State, Federal, and Local Business Grants Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that there is not as many grants available going into 2023. The Mainstreet Bounceback Grant is still available. LCEDC has written 38 letters with 35 being awarded. This has generated \$350,000 for Langlade County. The CDBG-CV Microbusiness grant is still available for approximately 8 businesses. LCEDC will be applying for the WEDC Entrepreneurship program. More information will be presented at the next LCEDC Executive Committee.
- f) **LCEDC Budget Timeline and Board Meeting Schedule:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that the LCEDC Executive Committee will be reviewing the LCEDC 2023 draft budgets at the September and October Executive meetings. The LCEDC Board will be meeting on October 17 to review the 2023 draft budget with the final approval at the November LCEDC Board meeting. Close will be working with Langlade County Administrator on 2023 LCEDC funding process.
- g) **LCEDC Tourism Update:** Beck updated the LCEDC Board on the 2021 Langlade County Tourism Impact Numbers. Langlade County saw a 14% increase in total business sales in 2021 compared to 2020. Both Welcome Center Assistants are now back at college. LCEDC will be looking for a replacement. The museum hours are reduced for fall/winter to Thursday through Saturday starting October 1. The City and County Go To Spot will be placed before the end of the year. Beck has worked with the Antigo School District to get the Go To Spots placed at the Antigo High School's Fitness Mile/Disc Golf Course and Noboken School Forest. The Welcome Center will be selling camping mugs with the Langlade County Tourism logo with the museum's train on the mug. All profit will go back into destination marketing. The Highway 45 County of Trails sign was painted. LCEDC staff will be working on getting the Highway 55 County of Trails painted as well. LCEDC has a booth at the Langlade County Fair. Fairgoers took 135 Langlade County Visitor Guides. LCEDC also was at the Wisconsin State Fair on Friday, August 12. 620 guides were given out during this one day. The City of Antigo Hotel/Motel Commission will be meeting this week to discuss the layout and collaboration with the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber on the 2023 Langlade County Visitor Guide.
- h) **Update on Other Economic Development Corporation Activities:** Close update the LCEDC Board that a new laptop is needed to replace the Close's 2017 laptop. LCEDC laptops are purchased through Langlade County's IT Department. The recommended laptop was quoted at \$943.67 which would be over the \$500 in the office equipment budget.

**Motion by Zalewski, second by Koszarek to approve transferring unallocated funds to cover the additional cost of purchasing a new laptop. All Ayes. Motion Carried.**


Close has been working with the Village of White Lake, Town of Evergreen, Town of Wolf River, and White Lake School District to apply for the CED Rural Community Pilot Program for towns under a population of 7,500 people. If selected, the CED Pilot Program will help economically plan the community. Announcement of the five communities that are selected for this pilot program will be made in October. Zalewski presented Seed Grant information for a YMCA feasibility study and concept drawings. A YMCA Task Force was created and will be meeting to discuss community needs and space needs before concept drawings can be done. The task force will be utilizing LCEDC's conference room for their meetings.

**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 will be the on October 17, 2022.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Koszarek, second by Zalewski to adjourn at 5:38 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Bauknecht, President

  
9/26/22