

MEETING MINUTES LANGLADE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Monday, May 15, 2023

Members Present: Thomas Bauknecht, Warren Wagner, Sarah Koszarek, Dillon Gretzinger, Andrew Hessedal, Terry Brand, Joel Zalewski, Fred Westphal

Members Present by Conferenced: Tammy Walrath

Members Excused: Lynn D'Amato, Sally Mulhollon

Others Present: Angie Close, Keri Beck, Jason Hilger, Zachary Linsmeyer

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Thomas Bauknecht.

Public Comment: Wagner informed the LCEDC Board that the Langlade County Highway Department is holding an open house and dedication of the new highway facilities from 10 am to noon on Friday, May 26.

Introductions: Introduction were made by everyone in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Economic Development Board Meeting: Motion by Koszarek, second by Zalewski to approve the minutes from February 20, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Gretzinger, second by Westphal to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Kerber Rose CPA LCEDC 2022 Financial Presentation: Linsmeyer presented the 2022 LCEDC Financial Review to the LCEDC Board.

Approve 2022 Financial Report:

Motion by Westphal, second by Gretzinger to approve the 2022 LCEDC Financial Report as presented by Kerber Rose. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Economic Overview and Presentation of 2022 LCEDC Annual Report: Close presented the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's 2022 Langlade County Labor Force Overview and LCEDC 2022 Annual Report to the LCEDC Board highlighting LCEDC's efforts in 2022.

Approve 2022 Annual Report

Motion by Wagner, second by Hessedal to approve the 2022 LCEDC Annual Report as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

LCEDC Board Members Term Update: Close reviewed the current LCEDC Board Officers.

Annual Election of LCEDC Board Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer:

Nominations were opened for the LCEDC Board Officers. Motion by Gretzinger to keep the LCEDC Board Officers as is: Tom Bauknecht – President, Sarah Koszarek – Vice President, and Warren Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer. The question was called 3 times. Motion by Zalewski to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to keep the LCEDC Board Officers as is. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Annual Election of LCEDC Executive Committee Officers:

Motion by Bauknecht, second by Westphal to approve keeping the LCEDC Executive Committee at large members as is. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve LCEDC Budget vs Actual and Financial Report: Close reviewed the LCEDC budget vs actual report with LCEDC Board.

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

LCEDC Tourism Update: Beck updated the LCEDC Board on the following items:

- The Antigo · Langlade County Welcome Center started summer hours on May 1st. The building is now open Monday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.
- LCEDC staff is working with the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber of Commerce on one mutual website of www.countyoftrails.org.
- Recent print advertisements in the 2023 Brewer Yearbook, 2023 Travel Wisconsin Travel Guide, On Wisconsin Outdoors, Summer Wisconsin Traveler, and Up North Action Magazine were available to view.
- The newest Langlade County ATV/UTV Maps were received at the beginning of May. Langlade County: County of Trails Facebook post generated over 60 inquires in four days that were mailed out.
- The Langlade County ATV/UTV Trails partially opened May 13. Parrish Highland area will open on Friday. The Facebook post reached 20,917 people with 994 engagements so far.

- Collaboratively working on Ice Age Trail business event on June 1st and public informational booths on June 1st at Music in the Park and June 3rd at the Antigo Farmers Market with the Ice Age Trail Alliance and the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber of Commerce.

Update on Other Economic Development Corporation Activities: Close updated the LCEDC Board on the following:

- LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund Recipients and CWED Update:** Close reviewed the RLF, ER-RLF, and CDF loans. There is one potential LCEDC RLF loan in the works and three inquiries. Close worked with the City of Antigo to answer an RFI from WEDC for Project Wood. The CWED Loan Fund can provide loans up to forty percent of a project. In 2022, there were 5 CWED loans to Langlade County businesses. Update only.
- Workforce Development:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that a Human Resource (HR) Group has been formed to collaborate on what is working to retain and attract workers and best practices.
- Broadband:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that the Langlade County Broadband Commission is waiting to hear if Langlade County PSC Broadband Grant application for the project to lay fiber along County Road B, C, J, and H to the Summit Town Hall will be awarded. Awards should be announced in the next couple of weeks. BEAD Funding application has also been submitted to help map broadband in Langlade County.
- Entrepreneurship:** Close updated the LCEDC Board that seven students graduated from the Spring 2023 ETP Program. Business Plans will be presented at the June 2023 LCEDC Executive Committee Meeting for possible award of Business Start Up Grants.
- State, Federal, and Local Business Grants Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that Mainstreet Bounceback Grant could potentially be refunded as part of Governor Evers' state budget. In the Governor's budget, there is also funding for rehabilitation of buildings.
- Welcome Center/Museum Reception:** Close informed the LCEDC Board that LCEDC and the Langlade County Historical Society will be holding a reception for elected officials from 4:30 to 6:30 pm on Tuesday, June 13 at the Langlade County Historical Society Museum & Welcome Center located at 404 Superior Street in Antigo.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business and set date for next meeting (action item): No new business was brought forward. The next LCEDC Board meeting at 4:00 pm on August 14, 2023.

Adjourn: Motion by Wagner, second by Koszarek to adjourn at 5:06 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Bauknecht, President

