

**MEETING MINUTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
June 5, 2023**

**Members Present:** Thomas Bauknecht, Warren Wagner, Dillon Gretzinger  
**Members Present by Conference:** Tammy Walrath  
**Members Excused:** Sarah Koszarek  
**Others Present:** Angie Close, Keri Beck, Eric Sonnleitner, Nicholas Bellomy, Michael Bent

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes of Previous Economic Development Executive Committee Meeting:** Motion by Wagner, second by Gretzinger, to approve the minutes from May 1, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**North Central WI Entrepreneurship Analysis and Strategy Presentation by NCRPC:** Sonnleitner from North Central Regional Planning Commission presented information on The North Central Entrepreneurship Analysis and Strategy Plan. The Sprint Challenge Grant helped foster the entrepreneurship ecosystem by implementing 5 IDEA Center locations within the region. The grant allows NCRPC to help track new businesses and jobs each year and track support resources for new businesses. A portal website is being developed. Information only.

**Spring 2023 Entrepreneurship Graduate Business Plan Presentation:** One of the 2023 Spring Entrepreneurial graduates presented their business plans to the LCEDC Executive Committee.

**Award 2023 Spring Entrepreneur Business Start Up Grants:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee that there were seven (7) Spring 2023 ETP graduates, but some were from outside of Langlade County and others were not ready to open within the year as the grant award states. Award of the 2023 Spring Entrepreneur Business Start Up Grant will be postponed until fall. No action taken.

**Langlade County Economic Development Corporation:**

- A. Review and Approve Payments of Bill for May 2023:** Close reviewed the May 2023 LCEDC bills with the LCEDC Executive Committee.

**Motion by Gretzinger, second by Walrath to recommend to the LCEDC Board under the consent agenda to approve the May 2023 LCEDC invoices as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.**

- B. Review Budget vs Actual/Financial Position Reports:** Close reviewed the budget vs actual and financial position reports with the LCEDC Executive Committee. LCEDC received additional grant administration income for the CDBG – CV and SBA Navigator Grants due to additional hours worked and advertising. The emergency fund transfer that was approved in the 2023 budget will be made after the AR adjustments are made. Information only.
- C. LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund Recipients and CWED Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee on RLF, ER-RLF, CDF, and CWED loans. Close will be following up on the CDF loan that is in a capital crunch. One RLF loan's annual review of interest rate will be in November. Close has been working with three potential loan applicants. Information only.
- D. State, Federal, and Local Business Grants Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that Joint Finance Committee has cut economic development items from the proposed Governor's budget. WEDC is working on a workforce initiative and talent attraction program. The Joint Finance did pass a one time payment of \$20 million to Wisconsin Department of Tourism and \$1 million to increase their base budget. Senator Baldwin's office is working on putting the SBA Navigator grant program in the federal budget. Grow North is taking over the GRID initiative. The GRID would be able to apply for the SBA Navigator Grant if included in the federal budget.
- E. Welcome Center/Museum Reception:** Close informed LCEDC Executive Committee that the June 13 Elected Official Reception at the museum has been postponed to August 15 due to meeting conflicts. The reception is to talk about collaborative efforts between tourism, museum, and economic development to keep it top of mind with the elected officials.
- F. LCEDC Strategic Plan 2024-2026:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that LCEDC is in the planning process of developing a working committee to review the prior LCEDC Strategic Plan. By August, LCEDC will know where Langlade County and the City of Antigo's strategic goals are and how LCEDC can help fill the gaps. More information in August.
- G. LCEDC Funding Policy Discussion:** Close presented information to the LCEDC Executive Committee on investing some of LCEDC's Emergency Fund into a short-term CD. Discussion was held. Gretzinger will run an analysis of the percentage rates to see what yields the best interest rate. Full board will vote via email as the next LCEDC Board meeting is not until August 14.
- H. Update on LCEDC Tourism Activities:** Beck informed the LCEDC Executive Committee on the following items:
- Held the Ice Age Trail Alliance business event on June 1st at Northstar Lanes. The Alliance also had informational booths on June 1st at Music in the Park and June 3rd at the Antigo Farmers Market. Beck coordinated the Ice Age Trail Alliance on the Breakfast Club the morning of June 2nd.
  - Attended Tradigital Marketing Seminar to learn additional marketing options.
  - Working on adding Antigo Historic Audio Tour to the Strive On app.

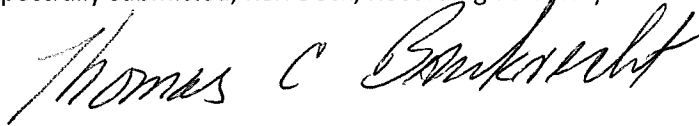
- Worked with MK Splash-N-Dash on marketing the August 5th event.
  - Held JEM Grant check presentation with the Antigo Lions Club for the Antigo Off Road Races Joint Effort Marketing Grant through Travel Wisconsin.
  - Held Historic Tax Credit presentation at the Antigo · Langlade County Welcome Center for all three Langlade County historical society organizations and area financial institutions to learn how the tax credits can be utilized by for profit entities and what is eligible.
  - 2022 Tourism Impact Numbers will be out tomorrow.
- I. Update on Other Economic Development Corporation Activities:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee on the following:
- Broadband: Langlade County has been awarded the PSC Broadband grant to lay fiber in the ground along County Highways B, C, J and H to the Summit Town Hall. Langlade County's application was ranked #1. The BEAD Planning Grant was awarded to Langlade County and a budget is being formed. Most of the dollars will be projected to be spent on mapping.
  - Child Care: The first core Dream Up Grant meeting was held. LCEDC will be receiving 10% for the grant to administer the grant.
  - LCEDC has been working on closing out the CDBG – CV grant for Langlade County.

**Old Business:** Wagner updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that the Langlade County Highway Department's dedication of the building had 88 people in attendance.

**New Business & Meeting Date:** The next LCEDC Executive Committee meeting will be at 4:00 pm on August 7, 2023.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Wagner, second by Bauknecht to adjourn at 5:15 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Keri Beck, Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas C. Bauknecht". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name of the Recording Secretary.