

**MEETING MINUTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
October 6, 2025**

Members Present: Tammy Walrath, Warren Wagner, Thomas Bauknecht, Steve Maier, Sarah Koszarek

Members Present by Conference:

Members Excused:

Others Present: Angie Close, Keri Beck

Meeting was called to order by President Tammy Walrath at 4:15 pm.

Public Comment: None

Minutes of Previous Economic Development Executive Committee Meeting: Motion by Wagner, second by Koszarek, to approve the minutes from September 8, 2025. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Langlade County Economic Development Corporation:

- A. Review and Approve payments of Bills for September 2025:** Close reviewed the September 2025 LCEDC Invoices with the LCEDC Executive Committee.

Motion by Bauknecht, second by Koszarek to recommend to the LCEDC Board under the consent agenda to approve the September 2025 LCEDC invoices as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

- B. Review Budget vs Actual:** Close reviewed the budget vs actual with the LCEDC Executive Committee. Information only.
- C. LCEDC Revolving Loan Fund and CWED Loan Fund Update:** Close reviewed with the LCEDC Executive Committee the LCEDC revolving loan fund recipients. The \$20,000 RLF administration fee was met in September. Discussion was held on how to utilize the extra funds. The Executive Committee will discuss further at the November Executive Committee meeting. One Antigo business closed on a CWED loan for a building purchase. CWED is looking at different marketing opportunities and is working on a construction like sign to place at the loan recipient's business promoting the partnerships involved. With the newest CWED loan, \$253,000 has been loaned out to Langlade County businesses in 2025.
- D. Business Projects Update:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee that a White Lake manufacturer is expanding a line at its facility. Close is assisting the business on different business tax credit programs and applying for a Fast Forward Grant through the Department of Workforce Development for customized training. Close updated the Executive Committee on other projects including the Idle Site Project, City of Antigo empty buildings and lots, along with completing an application for the Small Business Development Grant Program for renovation, rent assistance, and façade grant in the identified main street area.
- E. Toastmasters of Langlade County:** Close informed the LCEDC Executive Committee that Brenna Osborne has stepped forward to lead Toastmasters of Langlade County. Toastmasters International helps build effective communicators and leaders. A demo meeting was held with people attending from throughout Wisconsin. The next step is to charter a club at the next meeting on October 18. It is \$125 to charter a club and a 6-month membership is \$45 per member. Toastmasters meetings will be held on the first and third Thursday of the month at 8:15 am at NTC.

Motion by Maier, second by Bauknecht to recommend to the LCEDC Board under the consent agenda to approve LCEDC to charter the Toastmaster of Langlade County Club and to pay for LCEDC staff membership fees. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

- F. Executive Director Evaluation Draft:** Close provided copies of the Executive Director evaluation form. The form is to be returned to Walrath by November 1st. LCEDC's pillars will be staying the same, but the focus for Community Development will be changing.
- G. LCEDC 2026 Budget Update:** Close reviewed a second rough draft of LCEDC 2026 budget without additional programming to the LCEDC Executive Committee and assumed grant income. Close will follow up with County Finance Director on Langlade County's employee paid health insurance portion. Discussion was held on LCEDC staff pay increase to be comparable to the City and County increases.
- H. Tourism Updates:** Beck updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that the Antigo · Langlade County Welcome Center as of October 1st is open Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm until April 30th. Staff has seen an increase of items taken from the Welcome Center vestibule. Beck was on the 3rd Monday of September's Breakfast Club promoting the fall color report, October's Mammoth Hike Challenge, and upcoming fall events. Up North Action Magazine October/November 2025 issue had LCEDC's half page tourism ad along with articles on the Dirty Dog Dryland Derby and Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway. North Central Wisconsin Tourism Partnership had developed the 2026 marketing budget. The group is currently working on a logo redesign so promotional items can be updated before the two 2026 travel shows. LCEDC staff met with Winter Law Office and the City of Antigo to discuss adjustments to the destination marketing organization 5-year agreement. The agreement will be presented at the City of Antigo Hotel/Motel Meeting before LCEDC approval.
- I. Economic Development Update:** Close updated the LCEDC Executive Committee that LCEDC staff met with the City of Antigo on utilizing Alcinfo and Everbridge to promote a community podcast. Due to the conflict of interest, the website and notification system will not be used but the podcast will be independently ran. The Business of Childcare has completed Langlade County's growth and stability overview. The three Antigo child care facility received customized plans. The Dream Up Task Force will be participating in Peace Lutheran's Trunk

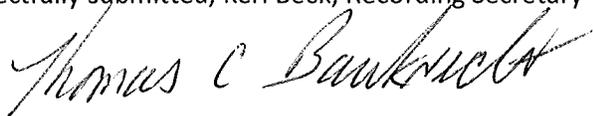
or Treat with the movie theme "Up" on October 25th. Close recognized Beck for her working on the City of Antigo grant projects. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Project closeout deadline has been extended to October 31st. Beck is holding a question and answer session on October 8 to assist plumbers on the City of Antigo Lead Service Line Replacement certified payrolls and BABA certifications along with closing out the CDBG PF 23-01 Edison Street and the EDA Saratoga Street Grants. NTC is holding an Open House & Free Pancake Breakfast on October 18th to kickoff National Forest Products Week and to check out the new sawmill. Maier attended the Logging Education Day at White Lake School Forest. October is also Manufacturing Month. Education & Industry meeting was held on Friday to continue building a stronger relationship. Human Resource Group will be meeting in October. Close is meeting with a group to discuss the County Strategic Plan.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business and set date for next meeting: No new business was brought forward. There will be no October LCEDC Board Meeting. The next LCEDC Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 3, 2025 at 4:15 pm.

Adjourn: Motion by Wagner, second by Koszarek to adjourn at 6:00 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Keri Beck, Recording Secretary

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