

Roscommon County Economic Development Corporation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8 a.m. October 28, 2021

Members attending: Wendy Engle, Vijay Kumar, Neil Belanger, Marc Milburn, Bob Schneider, Katherine Methner, Al Cambridge, Ed Bergeron, Theresa Ekdorn, Mike Briggs; Pam Kincaid

Members absent: Shawn Petrie, Jim Raschke

Guests: Dan Scow, Village of Roscommon

Staff: Brenda Bachelder

Meeting called to order at 8 a.m. by Katherine.

Pledge of Allegiance said

Agenda Changes – added Tourism Bureau report on House Bill 4722

Introduction of Guests – Dan Scow, Village of Roscommon

Meeting Minutes - Motion to accept Sept. 30, 2021 minutes by Bob, Seconded by Vijay. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report given by Brenda with discussion on spent funds. **Motion by Al to accept and file report. Seconded by Marc. Motion carried.**

Executive Director's report given by Brenda. See attached. BRA is looking for three more members as is Workforce Development. Chemical Bank grant – Brenda is working to get the Quickbooks training with Mid Michigan and Mercantile Bank.

Old Business

American Rescue Plan – 35 applicants. \$4.7 million to spend with \$7.4 million in requests. Bob listed the amounts accepted for the various applicants.

EDC Strategic Planning Sessions – Sessions will be held at Lake Superior University – Saint Helen Nov. 8 and 12. Information will be sent out.

New Business

Dan Scow, Village of Roscommon update on the Redevelopment Rural Community (RRC) project the village hopes to complete by December. He's also looking to explore the Mainstreet Community program.

MSHDA Grant/Letter of Interest - housing \$200,000 grant to build a modular home, sell that home and then build another. 51% of households need to be low income. Roscommon village qualified. Michigan.gov/MSHDA. Letter of interest is due Nov. 19.

St. Helen Chamber Mini Grant Request - \$1000 to put up a display board at the Richfield Township Hall. **Motion to approve by Marc, second by Bob. Motion carried**

Higgins Lake Roscommon Mini Grant Request - \$1000 request to purchase banners to welcome new businesses and business owners. **Motion to accept by Al, second by Bob. Motion carried.**

Consumers Energy Donation/Mercantile Bank Request – Consumers Energy is making a donation of \$1,000 to the EDC. Also interested in attending future EDC meetings. Mercantile Bank also supports local, so Brenda will be sending them a letter of interest.

Nomination/Election of officers (DIS) – Katherine/Brenda Nominations

Chair: Katherine

Vice Chair: Neil

Secretary: Theresa

Bob moved nominations closed. Vijay second. Motion to Vote for slate Al, Marc second. Motion carried unanimously.

November Meeting – Discussion on date of Nov. meeting scheduled for Thanksgiving. Meeting moved to Dec. 2 at 8 a.m.

2022 Meeting Schedule & Format - Katherine proposed to move to bi-monthly meetings of EDC with committee meetings the alternate months. Discussion ensued. Tabled to next meeting.

Tourism report House Bill 4722 – encourage to vote no on House Bill 4722. Ed suggests meeting with Vanderwall and Rendon in person on this. Marc to find out when they will be in town.

Board Member Comments

Commissioners meeting with BRA; HLATB annual meeting Nov. 17; Ed would like an annual report of what the EDC has done. And to let the media know.

Guest Comments – none

Agenda Items for the next meeting – get them to Brenda.

Next meeting December 2, 2021. 8 a.m. IN PERSON/VIA ZOOM