

Roscommon County Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors meeting

January 27, 2022

Present: Mike Briggs, Marc Milburn, Wendy Engle, Bob Schnieder, Neil Belanger, Theresa Ekdom, Al Cambridge, Katherine Methner,

Via zoom Ed Bergeron, Shawn Petrie (for dialog purposes, but not voting)

Absent: Vijay Kumar, Jim Raschke, Pam Kincaid

Economic Development Director: Brenda Bachelder

Guest: Rich Castle

Called to order by Katherine at 8:02 a.m. at COOR meeting room

Pledge of allegiance

**Motion by Mike, second by Theresa to approve minutes. Motion passed**

Treasurers Report by Brenda. Comments by Al with explanations of report. Reports from the county still need some fine tuning to give us the information we need. Revenue / expenditure report is clear and good. Bob to research the Economic Development special projects; MSU Strategic planning; and the Revolving loan fund reports. **Al moved to receive and file the report. Mike second. Motion carried.**

Executive Director's Report by Brenda. See attached.

OLD BUSINESS

American Rescue Plan Program. 4 programs for EDC. Worksheet created for the programs. Grant Program creating committee to come up with grant application. FIT program. Katherine, Theresa and Brenda to talk to the townships, village, DDAs. Dreams for Sale to fill empty buildings in the county. Katherine and Theresa to work on that. Streetscape feasibility plan– Neil is taking rein on this. We do need to have a “call for action” when presenting to the areas.

2022 Draft Meeting Schedule. Schedule presented to the group. May meeting location to be determined (COOR unavailable). Potentially meeting at the airport. Discussion on moving location from time to time. Also to place schedule in the local papers.

NEW BUSINESS

Rich Castle has submitted an application & letter of interest to become a member of the RCEDC. **Motion to approve Rich as a member of the board and send recommendation to the Roscommon County commissioners by Al. Seconded by Bob. Motion carried.**

Business Programs & Event by Brenda. With Wendy, looking to put together a series of training and offerings from Mercantile Bank.

Board Member Comments – Mike, info Kathleen Patchin stepping down from Gerrish Township Clerk position. Theresa, Tourism Bureau marketing report accepted by the State. Catch Us If You Can tagged fish drawing to be held in April. Rich, Supply chain catching up to Consumers. Street lights may not be replaced (center suspension lights). Waiting for components to come in. Marc – we want to make sure

we follow the rules as we use technology. Bob, there are problems with the Houghton Lake dam. Engineering report out to see what the cost is to improve/fix. No funds for it in the County. A couple of commissioners want to create a special assessment district for the three lakes

Guest comments – none

Agenda items for next meeting – send to Brenda

Meeting adjourned 9:24 a.m.

Next meeting Feb. 24 at the COOR Central Office, Roscommon