

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Economic Development Committee

Date of the Meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2021

Chair Mr. Max Weiss called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. at the Buffalo County Courthouse County Board Room in Alma, Wisconsin.

Board Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. David Danzinger (via TEAMS), Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht, Mr. Thomas Taylor and Ms. LeeAnne Bulman.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Ms. Sonya Hansen, Mr. Dennis Bork, Mr. Steve Schiffli, Ms. Roxann Halverson, and Ms. Tina Anibas (0845), (0900-0910) Mayor Brady Weiss, City of Mondovi, dialed in.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action – Minutes of the Previous Meeting: A motion was made by Ms. Bulman to approve the minutes held on December 17, 2020 seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion Carried by Roll Call Vote.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ 2021 Meeting Dates - Every other month Starting in March, date and time will be at the discretion of the Chair. Motion made by Ms. Bulman to approve by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Taylor. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ 2021 Economic Development Budget – Mr. Schiffli presented the approved budget. Indicated a need for additional department line items in the future to include advertising.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ 1st Quarter Objectives – Mr. Schiffli presented his objectives that are derived from Administration guidance, review of minutes, and discussion with Mr. Schmidt. A pencil entry was requested to the 1st quarter objectives to add broadband.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Update on Phase I and Phase II of the Fly Way Trail Project – Ms. Hanson presented an operational and financial report on the status of the Fly Way Trail. A discussion was held on further lobbying at the State Level. Ms. McMillan Urell has volunteered to represent the County in future lobbying efforts.

Mr. Bork indicated a need for Phase I to be completed and funds reconciled before initiating Phase II. A discussion was held. Questions on grant funding and cost share were asked.

Review/Discussion ~ Resolution to support funding for the Great River State Trail – Winona Connector [Phase II] – A discussion was held concurrent with the Phase I and Phase II update. The intent was to discuss with the committee and ensure questions were answered. It is the intent to present this resolution for action in March.

Review/Discussion ~Mayor Brady Weiss [0900] dialed in: A discussion was held on the City of Mondovi’s need to back out of the CDBG Grant due to a conflict with Federal guidelines and the wastewater treatment plant project.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Resolution to Designate 2021 Funding for Buffalo County Broadband Expansion – A discussion was held on funding, businesses involved, and terrestrial service vs. fiber. A motion by Mr. Schmidtknecht to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Three vote yes, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Taylor voting no. Motion carried.

Chairperson Report – Chair asked about future business projects, Mr. Schiffli will follow up.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ March 11, 2021 at 6:00 pm on the Agenda Farm Tech Days.

Motion by Mr. Taylor to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Bulman. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen S. Schiffli, Economic Development Manager