

Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE
OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Committee Present: David Christianson, Don Bartels, Ken Linzmeyer, Rose Stellmacher and Greg Sekela

Others Present: Kevin Hamann, Oconto County Administrative Coordinator
OCEDC - Paul Ehrfurth, Nancy Rhode and Samantha Boucher

1. Welcome of New Committee Member
The committee welcomed Don Bartels to the committee and gave brief introductions.
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Linzmeyer, second by Christianson, to approve the agenda. The motion was voted on and carried.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
Motion by Sekela, second by Bartels, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 meeting. The motion was voted on and carried.
4. Communications
None presented.
5. Reports
 - a) Monthly Staff Report
Ehrfurth provided an update to the Committee on various economic development, tourism and corporate projects staff has been working on.
 - b) Financial Report
Ehrfurth reviewed the monthly report of income and expense versus budget, as well as the year-to-date report.
 - c) Oconto County RLF and Tri-County RLF Loan Balance
The Committee was provided with a summary of the Revolving Loan Funds, which included balances in each fund and the encumbered amounts as of the end of July. The committee was provided with copies of the new RLF information brochure. Rhode reported the sale of the Gallon Road property is complete. RLF Loan Clients
 1. Loan Balances
Rhode provided the Committee with a RLF Loan Portfolio Report of the current RLF loans, which detailed loan clients, loan date, original loan amounts, interest rate, terms, jobs created, monthly payments, and balance for each of the loans as of the end of July. She reported that Blaser Farms has paid their final loan in full, and Woodlands has paid additional principle for the third consecutive month.
 2. Principal and Interest Payment Summary
The report provided the Committee with the principal and interest amounts paid on each loan in July.
6. 2016 Budget Approval
The Committee reviewed the proposed 2016 budget. Ehrfurth reported the budget was prepared with a 2% decrease as advised by County Finance. Motion by Linzmeyer, second by Christianson, to approve the 2016 budget as presented. The motion was voted on and carried.

7. Marketing Update
Boucher presented the committee with the new design for the Oconto County Tourism and Economic Development website. Various website statistics were handed out which included top referral sites, top cities and most viewed pages. Another filming for Discover Wisconsin took place on Saturday, August 1st featuring the Arts & Crafts Fair in Lakewood, Bass Lake Beach, Lakewood Ski & Sport, Sweet Memories, Joan White, and Waubesa Lodge.
8. Mountain Fire Lookout Tower
Ehrfurth updated the committee on the repairs needed to make the tower accessible to the public again. Staff presented the committee with the idea of a gofundme campaign to restore the tower. Motion by Sekela, second by Bartels, to endorse the Mountain Fire Lookout Tower funding project. The motion was voted on and carried.
9. Approval of Reports/Resolutions or Transfer for County Board Meeting
None were presented
10. Approve Voucher for Payment
A voucher was presented to reimburse OCEDC, from the RLF account, for administrative expenses incurred with selling the Gallon Road property. Motion by Christianson, second by Linzmeier, to approve voucher. The motion was voted on and carried.
11. Announcements/General Information (no action needed)
Ehrfurth presented the committee with newspaper articles including "Employment in county at a record", "Oconto farm to provide Christmas tree to Whitehouse", "Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources sign Good Neighbor Authority Agreement", and a WEDC article entitled "Agency gave loan to entrepreneur in case with earmarks of fraud."
12. Adjournment
Motion by Christianson, second by Bartels, to adjourn. The motion was voted on and carried.

Time meeting adjourned: 10:20 a.m.
Date of next meeting: September 8, 2015
Time of next meeting: 9:00 a.m.

(Signature, Recording Secretary)