

Winnebago County Industrial Development Board

Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2023 Meeting

3rd Floor Conference Room, County Administrative Building, Oshkosh, WI

Board Members Present: Rob Keller, George Dearborn, Jon Doemel, Mary Anne Mueller, Tom Eagan, Morris Cox, Nate Gustafson, Amber Hoppa

Board Members Excused: Elizabeth Hartmann, Bryan Stafford, Andy Buck

Others Present: Jerry Bougie, Adam Dorn, Tori Kinderman, Tricia Rathermel, Art Rathjen, Kathy Griese, Eric Broten, Sara Hanneman

Meeting called to order at 1:30 pm by Board Chair Rob Keller.

1. Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2023 Meeting. Motion by Morris Cox to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Nate Gustafson. Motion approved 8-0.
2. Review and Board action on 2023 per capita economic development funding applications tabled from February 17, 2023 meeting.

Jerry Bougie indicated there were four funding applications that were tabled by the Board during the February 17 meeting. He reported that the first one tabled was the City of Omro's application, and the City has informed him that they were unable to attend the meeting today, but would like to present their application at the next IDB meeting.

The second application tabled was the Town of Clayton's allocation. Jerry Bougie indicated the Town wanted their allocation of \$3,938.00 be directed to the Fox Cities Economic Development Partnership. Eric Broten from the Fox Cities Partnership provided the Board with a report on their economic development activities for the Fox Cities region which includes the northern areas of Winnebago County. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel thanked Mr. Broten for attending the meeting today and expressed the importance of working together to move economic development ahead for our county and region. Motion was made by Mary Anne Mueller to approve the allocation of \$3,938.00 to the Fox Cities Economic Development Partnership for 2023. Motion was seconded by Morris Cox. Motion passed 8-0.

The third application tabled was the Town of Neenah's allocation. Jerry Bougie reported the Town submitted a letter indicating they wanted their allocation of \$3,331.00 to be directed to Future Neenah, Inc. Sarah Hanneman from Future Neenah, Inc. provided the Board with a report on downtown Neenah's economic development activities and programs. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel thanked Ms. Hanneman for attending and

felt it was important for us to all work together on economic development. Other discussion pursued. Motion was made by Jon Doemel to approve the allocation of \$3,331.00 to Future Neenah, Inc. for 2023. Motion seconded by George Dearborn. Motion passed 8-0.

The fourth application tabled from the February 17th meeting was the Town of Omro allocation for \$2,120.00. Jerry Bougie said he had not heard back from the Town as to where they would like to allocate their funding for 2023. Tom Eagan made a motion to table the allocation until the next IDB meeting to allow the Town another opportunity to reallocate their funding. Motion seconded by Nate Gustafson. Motion passed 8-0.

3. Report and discussion on Winnebago County proposed repurposed IDB Revolving Loan Fund program with Greater Oshkosh EDC.

Rob Keller introduced Tricia Rathermel and Art Rathjen from GO-EDC to report on the status of the new Revolving Loan program that will replace the IDB's current Revolving Loan Fund. Ms. Rathermel reported that GO-EDC has been working on a draft loan manual that would include flexible gap loan financing terms and make these loans available for businesses countywide. Jerry Bougie indicated he and Mary Anne Mueller reviewed the IDB's bylaws and state statutory provisions in which the IDB is set-up under and confirmed that the IDB is allowed to loan funds directly to businesses and to provide these loans without approval by County Board. Ms. Rathermel indicated the process would include having GO-EDC's loan committee review and approve the loan applications, with GO-EDC providing the IDB with semi-annual reports on the loans issued. She said the loan committee is made up of bankers and other financial experts that have the knowledge and skill to review loan applications and the business's financial information. Morris Cox asked if non-profits would be eligible for loans under the proposed program. Ms. Rathermel said they would research this and provide the Board with information on this at the next meeting. Additional discussion pursued. GO-EDC will provide the Board with a final draft of the loan manual in time for the next IDB meeting.

Board member Mary Anne Mueller left the meeting at this point.

4. Next Meeting and adjournment

Jerry Bougie said he will send out meeting options to the Board for the scheduling of the next meeting. Motion by Nate Gustafson, second by Morris Cox to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Submitted by,

Jerry Bougie, Recording Secretary