

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STAPLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

June 23, 2020

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Staples Economic Development Authority was called to order by President Etzler at 5:05 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at the Staples City Hall Council Chambers with one attendee participating via zoom. Present were President Etzler and Commissioners Rice-zoom, Johnson and Case. With Commissioners Tappe, Gertken and Bendson marked as absent. Also present were Executive Director Melissa Radermacher, City Administrator Jerel Nelsen, Todd County Development Corporation, Rick Utech and Staples World, Mark Anderson.

Minutes of the May 26, 2020 meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Case and seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote was taken, Etzler-yes, Johnson-yes, Case-yes, Rice-yes. None voted no. Carried.

The board considered a request from the Todd County Development Corporation for a partner sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000. A motion was made Johnson, seconded by Case to approve the partner sponsorship request of \$1,000. Roll call vote was taken, Etzler-yes, Johnson-yes, Case-yes, Rice-yes. None voted no. Carried.

The board considered a request from the Initiative Foundation for a partner sponsorship in the amount of \$1,130. A motion was made Case, seconded by Johnson to approve the partner sponsorship request of \$1,000. Roll call vote was taken, Etzler-yes, Johnson-yes, Case-yes, Rice-yes. None voted no. Carried.

Radermacher shared an update on Covid-19 Business Response Efforts. The emergency response group continues to meet weekly to discuss best practices in response to the needs of the businesses and partner on special projects and resource guides for the Todd and Wadena County businesses. The Chamber and SEDA continue to partner to conduct Coffee Talks via zoom for the community every Wednesday to share pertinent information with the community. The SMACF continues to grant dollars to assist small businesses and nonprofits that have been affected by the Governors Executive Orders. To date there has been \$15,558 from 52 unique donations raised, \$23,864.25 awarded to 16 applicants, with the additional funding came from the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation Endowed Fund.

Radermacher shared that there has been one loan approved this time for the Covid-19 Emergency Loan program.

Radermacher shared an update on the 2020 Paint the Town program. Two homes have been approved by the committee, the initial site visit has been completed, painting will take place in in late August or September and the committee will be supplying PPE to volunteers.

Radermacher shared an update on the Child Care project. The funds will be disbursed to child care providers by the end of June. Radermacher continues to participate in the Wadena County RCCIP program.

The Welcoming Communities group continues to meet, there have been two projects identified on how to make systemic change in regards to how the community is welcoming to newcomers.

Radermacher shared an update of the Batcher Block bonding project. The board is meeting two times a month one longer meeting and shorter check-in meeting. There was no bonding bill passed at the special session, still working to be considered in the next special session.

Radermacher participated in the EDAM Summer Conference on-line on June 17-18.

Johnson shared an update on the Staples Chamber, the board will be planning to hire a coordinator in the Fall of 2020, and Railroad Days has been officially cancelled for this year. The Sip and Savor event is expected to move forward and planning has started for this Fall.

A motion by Case, seconded by Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 pm. Roll call vote was taken, Etzler-yes, Johnson-yes, Case-yes, Rice-yes. None voted no. Carried.

Melissa Radermacher, Secretary