

Sargent County Job Development Authority

Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday December 2, 2020 Time: 5:00 pm

Location of Meeting: "Go To Meeting"

PRESENT: Board: Luke Anderson; Paige Cary; Lyle Bopp; Terry Dusek; Mark Bopp; Jessica Peterson; Carol Peterson; Robert Ptacek; and Bill Anderson on virtual mtg. Sandra Hanson & Mark Bopp at Courthouse

Not Present Board: Mark Gainor; Mike Walstead; Bryce Carlson

Guests: none

Meeting Called to Order-Chr Terry Dusek called meeting to order at 5:10 pm

Minutes of Last Meeting Presented-Sandy emailed out the minutes of the meeting held on August 11th, 2020.

Lyle/Luke moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously. (MCU)

Treasurer's Report- budget as of 10/31/20

Approved budget for 2020 \$ 283,600.00

As of 10/31/20 spent \$ 309,172.88

As of 10/31/20 over budget \$ 25,572.88 109% budget completed

The actual account fund as of 10/31/20 \$478,763.28. Mark Bopp/Carol moved to approve the financial report. MCU.

Loan Reports:

Rutland General Store: automatic payments 15th of each month

Bixby Auto: payment made 11/05/20

FCDC Assisted living: payment made 10/30/20

Forman Housing Assoc: payment made payment 11/19/20

Four Seasons Health Loan 1: payment made 12-2-20

CDP Lodge: no payments scheduled at this time begin upon payoff of BND Loan

Four Seasons Health Care Addition Loan 2: payment made 12-2-20

Southside Auto-begin one year after final payment on loan with BND 15 yr loan repayment schedule 5% interest; monthly payments; 15 yr repayment schedule

The Field LLC (DBA: The School house) – payment made 11/19/20

Swede's Plumbing- annual interest payment to BND due 10/31/21

USW 560 Event Center-loan dated 6/2/20. 20 year loan payment. No payments scheduled to JDA until lead lender loans are complete.

No discussion on the current loans.

OLD BUSINESS

Career Builders Program-Paige has placed information in the Scoop for this week's edition. Paige is hoping that JDA members from each community will be contacts as needed for the program. Also to assist in getting information out and possibly meeting or contacting businesses that may be able to utilize this program. Paige stated that the Career Councilor from North Sargent has made contact with Paige, but She was interested in grants more so than the loan program. Paige has discussed the grant program with other community(s) that use this program and they stay away from the grant program because it is harder to control the dollars for a guarantee of work force to come into the county after they complete their education. With the Loan program the applicants are already employed in Sargent County and providing a work force benefit to the employers. Paige's intention is to work with some of the JDA members and get going on the business contact right after the first of the year.

Growing Small Towns-Carol stated that she spoke to Rebecca Undem and put together a packet of information and sent it out to a few businesses to take a look at. Carol's intention is to followup with the businesses to get some input from them. A survey was completed within the county and had a total of 80 responses. Carol and Paige stated that it was interesting and that they will compile it and send it out to everyone. Responses came from Rutland, Milnor, Gwinner, Forman and Rural areas.

SCJDA Spec Houses-Luke reported that he finally received an estimate from Differding and had a conversation with Riverside Lumber regarding lumber costs. Terry stated that he and Carol had a discussion as well with Riverside and the conclusion is that the market supply and prices are to speculative right now and suggested to wait until spring. The Spec house to be in Forman will have a basement with approximate 1300 sq ft on main level. Basement will not be an entirely completed area. This house was bid with a wood basement. Luke has the printout draft for the house. Luke can look into a concrete pour to see what that cost would be. Differding stated that he has nothing on his calendar for spring 2021 yet. It was encouraged by the JDA board that we meet in January and get things started and get Differding on the schedule for spring. Bill Stated Forman and Milnor are moving in the right direction and should continue to forge ahead.

NEW BUSINESS

Social Media campaign-Carol had a conversation with DRN regarding the availability for DRN to put out a campaign for the SC JDA. Discussion regarding doing a professional video was important. Ideas on who to contact to reach out to professional companies to help put something together and to also consider and get some ideas on how to advertise and the cost of that. Ideas to begin thinking about would be interviews, areal footage, what focuses would we want to concentrate on such as the great outdoors, our communities, schools, etc. bill stated that it is a good idea to "toot" our own horn. Terry assigned Carol, Paige, and Sandy to work on that project.

CCA Report-Nathan could not attend the meeting and no written report was provided. The JDA group discussed that CCA should provide some type of report to the JDA monthly or at least quarterly to keep up all updated on what activities CCA has been working on for the JDA. The reports could be sent out to Sandy for her to use to update the group. Terry will discuss this with CCA –Nathan Berseth.

JDA Staff-Carol and others brought up the thought of the county to begin thinking about a staff person to be the county Economic Developer. Many counties have began that trend and the Group feels that it would pay for itself in many ways for the county and the individual cities. The two commission on the JDA were tasked with bringing the discussion to the commission to start thinking about this idea.

A JDA county Strategic plan-Carol brought to the table for discussion a strategic plan for the county. It provides good direction if the plan is done well and utilized. It is another avenue of good business for the JDA/ County. Terry stated that these are good ideas and should be a continued topic of discussion for the JDA and commission moving forward.

Luke Anderson left the meeting at 6:30 pm

JDA expired board members-Bill Anderson position is completed as a commission representative. Mike Walstead is a member at large and has moved out of state so that position is open. Ron Narum was part of city government representing cities with a population under 500. Michael Mahrer said he would take the position if no one else in Cayuga, Havana, Cogswell was interested. The advertisement for the board position is in the Teller as well as applications are available on the county website on the JDA page. Anyone interested is encouraged to get applications in. Jessica stated that Dan McKeever was appointed representative for Gwinner City at Gwinner city council meeting. Applications are to be sent to the county auditor office.

Next Scheduled meeting- Terry suggested having our next meeting the third week in January to continue to move forward with all the things that we have going on. No date was set at this time.

Round Table- none

With no further business Carol/Mark moved to adjourn the meeting. MCU Terry closed the meeting at 6:45 pm

Recording Secretary
Sandy Hanson