

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
OF THE COUNTY OF KALKASKA – BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010– 9:00 A.M.  
KALKASKA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS**

**ATTENDANCE**

Directors Present

Mike Ascione  
Linda Wayne  
Jim Jesse  
Frank Pflum  
Al Dimon  
Al McCullen

Directors Absent

Aaron Bowron  
Lon Husbands

TBEDC Staff Present

Tino Breithaupt  
Andi Wagenschutz

BOC County Liaison

Deb Kimball

Public Present

Russ Bell  
Lou Nemeth  
Ruth Lankwell

**CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Jim Jesse. Roll was called. All directors were present except Lon Husbands, Al McCullen and Aaron Bowron. Al McCullen arrived later.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Jim Jesse asked that the following items be added to the agenda:

- Public Input-Russ Bell
- Broadband Update-Lou Nemeth
- Old Business-Luncheon revenue update and payment to church

Chairman Jesse asked to change the Chairman for the Fundraising Committee from Al McCullen to Mike Ascione. Al Dimon moved to approve the agenda as amended, supported by Linda Wayne. All yeas, motion carried.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Russ Bell notified the Board that he is one of the new owners of Twin Birch Golf Course. They will be having a Grand opening on May 22, 2010, and early spring was good for business. Discussion followed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Linda Wayne asked to strike out "Linda Wayne mentioned that" under Loan Committee; it should read "Dean Farrier knows of a company that offers 5.5% interest on CDs". Linda Wayne moved to approve with the corrections, supported by Frank Pflum. All yeas, motion carried.

**BROADBAND UPDATE**

Lou Nemeth gave an update on the Broadband initiative, explaining the handouts and how the grant process is proceeding. There will be a public meeting on May 5th, at 6:00 p.m. regarding Kalkaska County High Speed Internet. The meeting will be held at the Kaliseum. Tino Breithaupt, Senior Vice President of the Traverse Bay Economic Development Corporation explained the process of choosing the service provider. Breithaupt stated there were 11 providers in the beginning and that has been narrowed to two providers - Boardman River Communications and Agra, which cover 11 counties. Chairman Jesse asked about writing another letter supporting the progress of the broadband initiative. Lou Nemeth distributed a schedule of economy seminars offered by Michigan State University Land Policy Institute, sharing his thoughts on these seminars and encouraged more people to attend. Discussion followed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Treasurer, Linda Wayne provided the following financial report for April 1-30, 2010:

General Account: \$7,433.72 (expenses \$1160.50, deposit \$750.00) Balance \$7,023.22

FDA Savings Account: \$27,126.50 (interest \$4.46) Balance \$27,130.96.

Loan Account: \$26,801.80 (Interest \$5.51) Balance \$26,807.31

CD's: \$56,045.65 matures 6/19/10 (earning 2.84% interest \$1,377.47 YTD); \$28,240.88 matures 9/22/2010 (Earning 4.50% \$2,012.42 YTD). Linda Wayne moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, supported by Al McCullen. Roll call vote: Linda Wayne-yes, Al McCullen-yes, Frank Pflum-yes, Mike Ascione-yes, Al Dimon-yes and Jim Jesse-yes. All yeas, motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Brownfield Taskforce Report** – Aaron Bowron: No Report

**Consortium Committee** – Al Dimon reported that Jim Peters of Kalkaska schools attended, stating that they would be breaking ground for the additions to the school this summer. Dimon also reported that Kim Babcock of Kalkaska Hospital informed him that they now have 14 residents in the Assisted Living facility. Babcock also stated that the dialysis clinic is picking up and that three people have been assisted with transplants. Kalkaska Memorial Hospital's Strawberry Social is scheduled for June 15, 2010. Dimon reported that Diana Needham from the National Trout Festival stated that this year's festival was one of the largest festivals.

**Executive Committee** – Jim Jesse: Nothing to report

**Fundraising Committee** – Mike Ascione suggested a restructuring of the Fundraising Committee. Discussion followed. Mike Ascione made a motion to change the committee's name from fundraising to Funding Committee, supported by Al McCullen. All yeas, motion carried.

**Loan Committee** – Linda Wayne reported that she received a phone call from a lady wanting to get a loan to open a business in Kalkaska. Wayne directed her to Kevin Jackson, business consultant with the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce, and Members Credit Union. Wayne will provide updates as they become available. The idea of placing the loan application on the KEDC website was mentioned. Tino Breithaupt stated that this has been done. Chairman Jesse asked the Loan Committee come up with a special promotion to increase the interest/awareness of the KEDC loan program.

**Personnel Committee** – Al Dimon reported that he found a candidate for the ex officio student position on the KEDC Board which is a non-voting position. The Board was in agreement to invite Jordan Gunderson to join the KEDC Board. It was agreed that this would be a one year appointment for the Youth Representative to the KEDC. Al McCullen made the motion to invite Jordan Gunderson to be the ex-officio non-voting student Board member, supported by Linda Wayne. All yeas, motion carried.

**Public Relations Committee** – Nothing to report.

## **TRAVERSE BAY EDC MONTHLY REPORT**

Tino Breithaupt reported on the activity of the Traverse Bay Economic Development Corporation, stating that he had spent time in Lansing. Breithaupt also provided an update on the Pure Michigan campaign, stating that the budget was approved for \$15 million. Breithaupt also made mention of the event for Top 50 Companies to Watch in Michigan, stating that there are six from Northern Michigan, and further commented that the TBEDC has been seeing signs of recovery in the region.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Board of Commissioners Budget**

Chairman Jesse asked why the Board of Commissioners only sent \$4000 to the KEDC for the yearly budget. He said he was under the understanding that they would be getting \$6500. Deb Kimball explained that the Board of Commissioners had to cut the budget by \$500 and sent \$2000 to the TBEDC, which was in the KEDC budget to pay to the TBEDC. Jesse said that they were expecting the \$2000 to pass through the KEDC before going out to the TBEDC. Jesse stated that the KEDC will have to amend their budget to be in line with what the Kalkaska Board of Commissioners had allotted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Vacant Board Seat**

Al Dimon mentioned that there are two candidates for the open seat on the Board, stating that they are ready to make a recommendation to the County Board. Linda Wayne made a motion to present Truman Bichum to the Board of Commissioners to fill the open seat on the Board, supported by Al Dimon. All yeas, motion carried.

### **Trout Parade**

Jim Jesse gave an update on the KEDCs participation in the Trout Festival parade. He asked for the board's approval to have Aaron Bowron write an open letter to the editor of the Kalkaska paper, thanking Bill Marsh for donating the vehicle for the KEDC to use in the parade. The Board was in agreement to this request.

### **Follow up Report on Loan Application on Web**

Tino Breithaupt reported that the loan application is on the website as a PDF.

### **Follow-up Report on Small Business Loans on Chamber Billboard**

Linda Wayne said she is waiting to hear from Don Kessel to reserve the billboard at the Kalkaska Chamber of Commerce.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion made by Al Dimon to adjourn the meeting and supported by Linda Wayne the meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andi Wagenschutz  
Administrative Assistant