**Luce County Economic Development Corporation**

**EDC Office Conference Call**

**Minutes**

**4:00 p.m.**

**November 10, 2020**

**Present**: Joe Villemure, Colleen Duflo, A.J. Downey, John Waltman, Brian LeBoeuf, Rose Pann, Hunter Nostrant and Paul Burton (4:13 p.m.)

**Absent**: Michelle Clark

**Communication from Public**: None

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the regular board meeting held via conference call on October 13, 2020 were reviewed and approved as presented. Motion made by Villemure , seconded by LeBoeuf. All Ayes. Motion passed.

**Approval of Financial Report/Bills**

The regular financial report and bills for October were reviewed and approved as presented. Motion by Downey, seconded by Villemure. All Ayes. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:**

**Old Business-**

1. **2020 EDC project update** – Discussion about Strategic Plan, Attraction Plan & etc.- The board feels that we need to keep this plan going and start attracting more skills jobs. -Chairperson Duflo said that we need to an Attorney to the list of skilled jobs that we need in the area. Tammy has been in contact with Dr. Newby, and he has been in contact with the Universities that have reached out.
2. **Reviewing editing & updating by by-laws, and editing employee documents to match by-laws-**Tabled for now, committees have not been able to meet.
3. **Industrial Park Update Buckler/Roat-** Tammy was not in attendance at the last Board meeting, and she had listened to the recording and draft a letter to Buckler as directed by the Board. She will be sending it out to the Board for feedback.

**New Business**

1. **EDC Board Member Updates-** Pann stated that people are moving to the U.P. in droves, they are turning camps into homes. Michigan Works is open by appointment only. CHAC has an office located by the hospital in order to help with Senior Citizens. Chad Bodi is looking at new larger facility. LP is putting in a health care facility, it will not be a large facility. They have received a federal grant, and will have health care for their employees and eventually their spouses. They will have a nurse and TeleMed. Tammy has spoken to some restaurant owners, and there is just so much uncertainty right now and they are all doing what they can right now. Waltman mentioned that a new large family bought Pike Lake and does not plan to open it up as a business.
2. **2021 Budget Review-** Tabled
3. **Nominating Committee-** Cliff Fossitt is no longer a board member, and he can stay on this committee or ask for someone to volunteer to be on. Hunter Nostrant has volunteered to take Cliff’s spot on this committee. Nominating Committee needs to communicate with each other to come up with recommendations for the Executive committee members and bring those recommendations to the Board to vote on.
4. **2021 Meeting Dates-Action Required-**Attached is a 2021 Standard Meeting dates, motion by Burton, seconded by Waltman. All Ayes Motion passed.

**Directors Report-**

* Just as a reminder. I was off for two weeks so this will be a shorter report
* Chatted with Fred about progress on the site. He filled a dumpster and plans to come back and work on clean up before snowfall. Has placed equipment inside one of the buildings and some outside of it. He is interested in purchasing lot 13 in the park. It is west of Northern wings. It is a small 2-acre lot. He would like to build a garage there for maintenance on vehicles and equipment. Are we still selling it for $1,000/acre?
* There was some confusion on which lots Fred Roat owns and how it all played out. I sent an email to clarify. Does anyone have questions about it?
* Attended several webinars on the new MDHHS Emergency Rules and Epidemic Orders. Very similar to the executive orders.
* TJ and Sam took first WC draw for a garage door. They have been too busy to get any work done, contractors too.
* Worked on Buckler letter – Colleen has it
* Began searching trade schools per the meeting recording. Difference is with the dentist we have a potential employer or a business to buy. With the trades, I am not sure what to offer them other than information. Most have job boards.
* Updated the attraction plan to date attached to packet
* MEDC released their department budget and held their annual interlocal partner meeting. They were honest about cuts and shared priorities. Downtowns continue to be a focus for buildings and housing
* I have spoken to a few clients about the need for middle housing in Newberry. Hoping to spark some interest and get some of our housing stock upgraded.
* Crisp Point Lighthouse is on our books as an asset yet the county is the deed and lease holder. Gave this information to Gary Moulton and we will resolve this at audit time. Anderson Tackman does both of our audits. It will be removed from our books and all reporting will be done by the county.
* Budget draft completed for review.
* Had a virtual meeting with the MEDC representatives to discuss our goals and priorities and goals and how they can help.
* UPCDC is out of funds and there will be no more training reimbursement from them. Any further training will need to be paid by the EDC. I have one class left to take before I can sit for the CEcD exam. It is a virtual class and the cost is on the budget.

**Information**

Loan portfolio update – Handout-in board packet for review

RLF Balance – Handout-in board packet for review

**Communication from public –** None

**Adjournment** – Motion made to adjourn at 4:43 p.m. by Villemure, Seconded by Pann.

All Ayes motion passed.

Approved by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2020.

Colleen Duflo, Chairperson