**Luce County Economic Development Corporation**

**EDC Office Conference Call**

**Minutes**

**4:00 p.m.**

**July 14, 2020**

**Present**: Joe Villemure, Cliff Fossitt, Rose Pann, Paul Burton, Colleen Duflo, and John Waltman

**Absent**: A.J. Downey, Michelle Clark and Brian LeBeouf

**Communication from Public**:

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the regular board meeting held via conference call on June 9, 2020 were reviewed and approved as presented. Motion made by Waltman, seconded by Villemure. All Ayes. Motion passed.

**Approval of Financial Report/Bills**

The regular financial report and bills for June were reviewed and approved as presented. Tammy reported nothing unusual in the financials. Motion by Villemure, seconded by Fossitt. All Ayes. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:** Tammy has received a couple of complaints about park owners violating the covenants. She has drafted 3 letters for those park owners. After further discussion the board feels that they would like Tammy to make phone calls to the park owners instead of the letters at this time.

**Old Business-**

1. **EDC project update** – no update until our next face to face meeting
2. **EGLE/Pike Lake Grant Update-** Tammy is waiting for the final report to add in admin fees, then should be closed out soon.
3. **MEDC Grant Update-** had 1 sealed bid that was sent in from Kevin Brow for $28, 000 motion by Fossitt to except this bid seconded by Burton.

**Roll Call Vote:** Villemure, Fossitt, Waltman, Burton, Pann and Duflo. All Ayes. Motion Passed.

1. **MEDC Grant lot and Industrial Park #2 lot-bids-**had 1 sealed bid that was sent in from Kevin Brow for $25,000 motion by Burton to except this bid seconded by Fossitt.

**Roll Call Vote:** Villemure, Fossitt, Waltman, Burton, Pann and Duflo. All Ayes. Motion Passed.

1. **Reviewing editing & updating by by-laws, and editing employee documents to match by-laws-**for further review and toleave on agenda for time being.

 **New Business**

1. **Member Updates-** Jim Handrich is moving his Auto repair shop location to what used to be Weller Welding. The Bears Den store has been sold. Northern Initiatives offices are very busy with new loans and modifying current loans.
2. **Covid-19 & Current Loans assistance-** New round of grants that opens up Monday and the businesses that received any grant money before can not apply for this round.
3. **Specific targeted marketing strategies for professionals we are lacking in Newberry-** Dr. Tokar is retired and Dr. Newby is not far behind him and the business is for sale. We also need HVAC, electricians in the area. We need to either have the younger people come back or bring new people into the area. The housing in the area is not great either, with people looking to relocate to the area. Pann suggested looking at military that just did 20 years in the service and then they retire but are still young and don’t have a lot of student debt.
4. **Resolution at ask Pentland TWP to expand IFT zone to include new side-Action required-**After discussion the resolution letter needs to be presented to the board in order to be voted on. Tabled until the resolution letter is typed and will be sent via email for a vote.
5. **Expiring Board Seats-**Cliff Fossitt, Joe Villemure and Brian LeBeouf seats will be expiring on September 30th. Cliff is not going to be running again but has been helping on filling his seat which is a private sector seat. Joe will be running again. Brian will be letting us know soon what he plans on doing.
6. **Covenants Amendments-Action Required-**Tammy would like to get these out to the property owners soon. The draft of the changes with the help of our attorney. Tammy has asked the board about the part in the covenants about the Truck Stop, which is retail and not allowed in the Park. After discussion the board told Tammy to take out the Truck Stop language. Motion by Burton to approve the amendments of the Covenants seconded by Waltman. **Roll Call Vote:** Villemure, Fossitt, Waltman, Burton, Pann and Duflo. All Ayes Motion Passed. The board told Tammy to send the old covenants along with the new copy showing the changes out to the park owners so they can vote on.

**Directors Report-**

* Webinars and conference calls have begun to slow down.
* Fred has mowed lots 6 & 8 and they look really nice.
* John Mowrey will be in the area for the summer to help sell the building.
* Attorney has our covenants – he is making final edits and I will send to the board for review.
* I am working with the MEDC attraction team, Vicki Schwab our MEDC Business consultant and Invest UP. There is a company in Minneapolis – 7 Sigma what was victim to the riots and was burned down. We have reached out to them about relocating to Michigan and specifically to our park. They have not yet responded.
* Received a check for timber sales in the amount of $41,575.28, job is now finished and we received the last payment in the amount of $5,932.93
* I have gotten complaints about the hole on the Kerr lot and the excessive cars at Great Lakes Truck. Letters are drafted and will be send upon approval by the board.
* 14 businesses have been helped by local, state and federal programs. The total amount of cash injected into our county is $487,700 14% of those funds are in the form of grants
* Each Tuesday in July I have an online class for training. This is through the IEDC and is one of the last two courses I need to take before sitting for the CEcD exam. It is Business Expansion and Retention.
* State has new grants coming out today. Press release in paper.
* I am no longer on the Chamber Board
* Incentive listing see attached.

 **1. Admin Update-**

Annette went over what she has been working on. When Tammy has training, she jumps in and takes her spots in webinars and since the last board meeting, she has been on 4. Proofing documents that Tammy sends her way. Getting the Board packets ready and sent out that has been taking quite a bit of time. Updating the website and zoom prospector with local businesses that are for sale. She also let the board know that she has surgery schedule and plans on being out for 2 weeks.

**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 5:31 p.m. by Waltman, Seconded by Burton. All Ayes motion passed.

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

Cliff Fossitt, Secretary/Colleen Duflo, Chairperson