

Egan called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Committee at 9:00 a.m., on Dec. 1, 2008 in Conference room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members Bob Egan, Ralph Sitzberger, Emil Bakka, Charles Rayala, & Jim Behling; others Kelly Haverkamp, John Huzsa, Roger Weber, Bill Lochte, & Rosemary Leveille
Media present: Ken Anderson, & Eric Johnson
The following County Board members were excused:
The following County Board members were absent:

Agenda item # 2: Introductions – Everyone introduced themselves.

Approve Agenda Motion by Bakka, second by Rayala to approve the agenda to be handled in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Approve Minutes Motion to approve the minutes of November 3, 2008 for Economic Development meeting by Sitzberger, second by Bakka. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agenda item #5: Economic Development Reports and updates - **A)** Committee strategies for 2008, **B)** Grow North, & **C)** Governor's Northern Wisconsin Economic Development Summit – All of these items were discussed together. The question was raised about possibly changing the strategies since economic times have changed so drastically, because the strategies are visionary it was decided not to. Going to town meetings as a committee to discuss the towns' needs and wants will begin in 2009. Haverkamp was asked to keep a file of resources and to add links and updates to the Economic Development web page. The research and development of an Economic Development Corporation, Commission or Council will begin now with the possible help of the NCWRPC with a tentative date of January 1, 2011 for implementation. It was also stated that the internet connection in the Northwoods is now being discussed at the state, county and local levels. The answer has yet to be developed but all levels are working on the problem. **D)** other Economic Development Activities – Haverkamp stated that she received a call from Matt Schreiber, who is the county's economic development contact at the NCWRPC. She also announced that the Northwoods Entrepreneurial Boot Camp had 17 participants and it was very successful. The ERRP committee has decided to have the Camp again next year and have 3 on the waiting list already. Egan read a thank you letter from Barry McLeane, Chairman of ERRP for the Economic Development Committee's support.

Agenda item # 6: Budget/Approval of Bills – Leveille provided an updated budget and presented the following voucher for payment: Kathleen Haverkamp-\$101.21; Clermont Printing and Office Supply-\$10.98. **Motion by Bakka, second by Rayala to approve the vouchers. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item # 7: Out-of County travel – None for this month.

Agenda item #8: Correspondence and Communications - Haverkamp informed the committee that Grow North will be reconfiguring their meeting locations. Some of the current projects that they are working on are broadband issues, wood products, tri-county transit system, park 'n ride, manufacturing resource sharing. They will again have the Northwoods Inventors and Entrepreneur's Club open house on February 11, 2009 at the Quality Inn in Rhinelander from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates/Items: The next regular meeting will be Monday, January 5, 2009, at 9:00 a.m.,

Adjournment: Motion by Rayala, second by Sitzberger to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.
Submitted by: Rosemary Leveille