

Egan called to order the regular meeting of the Economic Development Committee at 9:00 a.m., on Oct. 3, 2008 in Conference room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

**Present:** The following persons were present: County Board members Bob Egan, Jim Behling, Charles Rayala, Ralph Sitzberger & Emil Bakka; others Kelly Haverkamp, & Rosemary Leveille

Media present: Ken Anderson, & Amy Freston

The following County Board members were excused:

The following County Board members were absent:

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

**Approve Minutes: Motion by Sitzberger, second by Bakka to approve the minutes of the Sept. 8, 2008 meeting. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item # 4:** Introductions – Everyone introduced themselves.

**Agenda item # 5:** Reports and updates: **A)** Committee strategies for 2008 – Egan announced that the Town of Winchester would like the ED committee to come to one of their town meetings. A few ideas were discussed as to how to handle these types of meetings; to go with a definite agenda, focus and define the role of the County, what resources and help the County can give the towns, and how the County can customize the help that is needed according to the individual town needs. A few suggestions on how to handle the Hi-Speed internet problem in the county were also discussed, to possibly start an incubator program that has capabilities of Hi-Speed internet, and for Haverkamp to try and get the internet situation on the agenda for the Northwoods Governor's Economic Development Summit, in Lac du Flambeau on November 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. **B)** North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission – Dennis Lawrence will be attending the November meeting. He stated that all of the Vilas County towns would be receiving a packet on services available from the NCWRPC before the end of the year. The Economic Development committee meeting for next month will be a joint meeting with the Land Use Planning committee because Lawrence will be attending to explain the possibility of NCWRPC's involvement. Favorite stated, that since one of the statutory requirement for the town land use plans is to state their Economic Development strategies, it would be a good idea for this committee to look at all of them upon completion. **C)** Grow North - Egan stated that Grow North is putting together a consortium of internet providers to work on the problems faced in the Northwoods. They are also working with firms, mostly manufacturing, to pool resources for full time employment by having a person work at multiple locations. The Entrepreneur and Inventors Club next meeting will be October 15, 2008. **D)** other Economic Development Activities –Haverkamp gave the members a reminder of the Entrepreneurial Boot Camp. Registration started on Monday and they have 5 registrants already.

**Agenda item # 6:** Budget/Approval of bills – Leveille provided an updated budget and presented the following voucher for payment: Kathleen Haverkamp-\$270.89. **Motion by Bakka, second by Sitzberger to approve the vouchers. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item # 7:** Out-of County travel –Haverkamp circulated a flyer (on file in the UWEX office) on the Fall Regional Professional Group Dinner meeting, Oct 28<sup>th</sup> in Mercer. **Motion by Sitzberger, second by Bakka for anyone that wishes to attend the Manufacturers' Professional Group Dinner Meeting may do so. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item #8:** Correspondence and Communications: Favorite gave the committee members a copy of a report from the North Central Work Force Development Board and discussed a few parts. Haverkamp distributed a socioeconomic study on Vilas County. Egan presented a letter and economic impact statement (on file in the UWEX office) from the Eagle River Airport, requesting a possible loan from the County for the purchase of land. A recommendation was made to have finance put this request on their agenda for discussion and a possible resolution.

**Future Meeting Dates/Items:** The next regular meeting will be Monday, November 3, 2008. at 9:00 a.m. Haverkamp was asked to notify Dawn Schmidt, Zoning Administrator and Chris Mayer, Land Use Planning Committee Chair of the date and time, for the purposes of the joint meeting.

**Adjournment: Motion by Rayala, second by Sitzberger to adjourn at 11:00 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