

**Board Minutes of the
Martin County EDA
February 4, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by Brent Schultze at 5:17pm. Those present were: Larry Baarts, Tim Terfehr, Wes Anderson, Elliot Belgard, and Richard Koons. Absent: Steve Fosness. Also present were Scott Higgins, Bryan Stading, RCEF and Jason Sorenson, Fairmont Sentinel Reporter.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Terfehr to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Terfehr, seconded by Anderson to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2019 regular EDA Board meeting. Carried unanimously.

A brief update was given by Stading regarding potential interest for further development of former Kmart building.

Stading reviewed the January 2019 business consultation report with the Board. There were a total of twelve (12) facilitation sessions for a total of 15.5 hours.

Stading gave a brief update on legislation for continued funding for business facilitation for RCEF.

Higgins reviewed the progress report pertaining to the county wide broadband project by Frontier Communications, Inc. The reporting period was for July 1, 2018-Dec. 31, 2018. Total amount of grant paid to date as of the reporting period is \$1,047,577 paid to Frontier Communications, Inc., it is estimated that 94% of the project is complete, approximately 428,700 Feet of fiber footage installed. The project is working toward completion in March 2019. The Prolonged winter of 2017/2018 has delayed the overall construction start date in 2018. All new Central office electronics have been installed and new remote DSLAMS sited have been placed in the field and powered. It is expected overall completion date June 30, 2019.

Higgins presented and reviewed the bills for approval and ratification for January 8, 2019-February 4, 2019 in the amount of \$10,827.76.

Motion by Baarts, seconded by Belgard to ratify the bills for January 8, 2019-February 4, 2019 in the amount of \$10,827.76. Carried unanimously

The Board reviewed the January 2019 Year to date financial reports, with a listed EDA fund balance of \$290,151.61.

Higgins reviewed the information included in the board packets as follows, the Area Career Exploration Event (ACE) is scheduled for April 10, 2019 at the Fairmont High School. . The EDA has sponsored the ACE event in the past. ACE provides high school sophomores from within Martin County and surrounding counties an awareness of job opportunities in the region;

provides face to face interaction with area employers, career options that match student skills and interest. And allows the students to gain information about careers, education and to develop job seeking skills to better understand what employers look for in employees. Higgins reviewed the SMIF Community Sprout Events brochure, stating the EDA is a sponsor of the event; and reviewed the DEED Border to Border Grant reimbursement request #5.

The next board meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2019 at 5:15pm at the Courthouse.

With no further business to wit,

Motion by Baarts, seconded by Terfehr to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm

Brent Schultze, Board President

Larry Baarts, Board Secretary/Treasurer