

**Board Minutes of the
Martin County EDA
March 1, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by Tim Terfehr at 5:15 pm. The meeting was set up for videoconferencing via WebEx due to the covid19 pandemic. Those present were: Elliot Belgard, Elizabeth Miller, Wes Anderson, and Richard Koons. Absent: Brent Schultze and Steve Fosness. Also present were Bryan Stading, RCEF (consultant).

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

Stading presented and reviewed monthly client report for February 2021.

Stading gave an update of proposed legislation for appropriation to RCEF to provide entrepreneurial and business consultation services for the Region 9 counties. The proposed legislation provides for a direct allocation to RCEF.

As the Board is aware the County received a grant in the amount of \$150,000 per year for two years for state fiscal year 2020/2021 on behalf of RCEF. The grant required a dollar for dollar match. The services to be provided included the nine county region to include the counties of Martin, Blue Earth, Brown, Watonwan, Waseca, Faribault, LeSuer, Nicollet, and Sibley. The eligible expenses include to payment of overhead expenses pre-venture assistance individuals starting a business and services for underserved populations, agriculture businesses and students. The Martin County EDA served as the host/fiscal agent for RCEF grant.

The existing state grant runs until end of June 2021. If the grant is not all spent by end of June, DEED is allowing grantees to extend the current fiscal year grant beyond June 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic to give organizations more time to spend the grant funds. In our current grant situation, it is projected that we will not spend all of the grant funds. If the Board so chooses, it would be good opportunity to request and extension until the grant funds get spent or the next grant (if approved) is available.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Miller Be It Resolved That the Martin County EDA, it is anticipated that not all grant funds from SPAP-19-0017-P-FY20 will be expended by June 31, 2021, therefore hereby approves and authorizes staff to submit a request to DEED to extend grant SPAP-19-0017-P-FY20 until all funds have been expended or not to exceed three months. AYES: Terfehr, Anderson, Belgard, Miller Nay: Koons

The Board received information about the County Relief Grant program. The county received 76 applications. The Count Board will approve grant awards during their regular meeting scheduled for March 2, 2021.

As the EDA Board is aware, the Minnesota Legislature had recently passed a bill appropriating money for the relief payments and grants to businesses impacted by Covid-19 related restrictions

to the Executive Order 20-99. As a result, Martin County is projected to receive a total of \$389,816.31 of which \$9,507.71 are to be used for the administrative fees. This leaves the remaining amount of \$380,308.60 to be disbursed in grants to local business affected directly or indirectly by the Governors Executive Order 20-99.

The County has set up a committee to plan and implement the application and disbursement of the grant funds to local businesses within the county. Brent Schultze and Tim Terfehr were EDA Board members who were a part of the Committee to review and the applications and give recommendations of grant awards to the County Board of Commissioners. There was a greater effort in publicity the County Grant Relief program throughout the county.

The Board reviewed the bills for February 2, 2021-March 1, 2021 and reviewed by the Board.

Motion by Koons, seconded by Miller to approve and ratify the bills for February 2, 2021-March 1, 2021 in the amount of \$1,313.37. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the information/reports in the agenda packets, which included the SFY20 DEED Business Assistance Grant Performance Report; and RCEF Goals and Performance Report; and SMIF Thank you letter.

With no further business to wit,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Koons to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Tim Terfehr, Board Secretary/Treasurer