

**Board Minutes of the  
Martin County EDA  
December 2, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by Brent Schultze at 5:16pm. Those present were: Steve Fosness, Larry Baarts, Tim Terfehr, Elliot Belgard, Wes Anderson, and Richard Koons. Also present were Scott Higgins, County Coordinator and Bryan Stading, RCEF.

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Baarts to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Fosness to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019 and November 4, 2019 regular EDA Board meetings. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented various sample city and county policies for single and multi-family home tax abatement.

Discussion ensued on the various sample policies.

Koons stated that a meeting should be set up with the other towns and townships to get their input on countywide tax abatement for single and multi-family housing.

Belgard responded not sure the need to meet with every town or township. The only entity for a county policy would be county taxes only.

Koons stated we should get their concerns.

Koons suggested setting up a committee to formulate a policy to present to the various towns and townships to get their thoughts, understanding that each separate entity has their say.

Belgard stated that the Board sets up its parameters as well.

Koons stated that City of Ceylon is talking about potential for multi-family housing and Welcome, Sherburn and Trimont have talked about the need for more apartments.

Anderson stated it would be good to talk with the townships as well.

There was discussion on implementing a 10 year tax abatement for multi-family housing and a 5 year tax abatement for single family housing.

Belgard suggested talking with the officers of the county township association in keeping them informed of our progress with countywide tax abatement for single and multi-family housing.

After further discussion,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Terfehr to approve and authorize the development of a policy for a countywide tax abatement policy establishing a five year tax abatement for single housing and ten year tax abatement for multi-family housing; and to approve Schultze, Terfehr and Koons as committee to formulate a policy to bring to the board for review and approval. Carried unanimously.

Stading presented and reviewed the November 2019 business consultation report with the Board. There were a total of four (4) facilitation sessions for a total of 14 hours.

Stading provided a detailed budget for the DEED grant, in which the EDA will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant to RCEF. The total required matching dollars for the grant is \$145,500 per year (two years). It is estimated that Martin County share is \$46,000, along with in kind math of \$28,500. Stading stated that the county could be reimbursed for half the in kind amount. Stading informed the board that Brown County has come on board for business facilitation services from RCEF and has offered office space to meet with clients in that county. The budget will need to reflect in kind dollars from Brown County as well.

Stading reviewed the projected budget expenses. It was stated to include an expense line item for Martin County EDA for administrative services for the grant.

Stading presented and reviewed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RCEF and Martin County EDA.

Higgins suggested that the Board approve the MOU contingent upon the County Attorney review and approval.

After further discussion,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Terfehr to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RCEF and Martin County EDA, contingent upon the County Attorney review and approval.

Higgins presented and reviewed the bills for approval and ratification for November 4, 2019-December 2, 2019.

Motion by Koons, seconded by Fosness to ratify the bills for November 4, 2019-December 2, 2019 in the amount of \$319.20; in addition of RCEF invoices for August 31, 2019 in the amount of \$3,800, September 30, 2019 in the amount of \$2,000, October 31, 2019 in the amount of \$2,500 and November 30, 2019 in the amount of \$1, 900 pending the required detail for services. Carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the November 2019 Year to Date financial reports, with a listed fund balance of \$277,347.65.

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Koons to receive and file the November 2019 EDA monthly financial reports as presented. Carried unanimously.

Higgins reviewed the information/reports including the MCIT Annual Meeting announcement letter and the MCIT dividend to the EDA in the amount of \$161.

With no further business to wit,

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:39pm

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Brent Schultze, Board President

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Larry Baarts, Board Secretary/Treasurer