**Board Meeting Minutes of the Martin County EDA**

**August 5, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by Wes Anderson at 5:15 pm. Those present were: Wes Anderson, Richard Koons**,** Brent Schultze, Tim Terfehr and Elizabeth Miller. Those absent were: Jaime Bleess and Steve Fosness. Also present were Scott Higgins, County Coordinator, Amber Patten (CEDA Consultant), Joshua Schuetz (CEDA Consultant) and Bill Fahey, Martin County Special Projects Coordinator.

**Agenda**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Koons, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the June 3rd, 2024 Martin County EDA Board Meeting as presented. Carried unanimously.

**EDA Activity Report**

Schuetz and Patten reviewed the June and July 2024 EDA Activity Report with the board. Work on 24 projects was completed in May.

**Consider Approval of 2025 EDA Budget request-initial discussion**

Patten presented a request to the board for a $1,000 donation to project 1590’s From the Ground Up Event.

Motion by Schultze, seconded by Koons to approve funding the From the Ground Up Event in the amount of $1,000. Carried unanimously.

**Consider Approval of Pursuit of Funds for Martin County Courthouse Murals**

Schuetz requested board authorization to use EDA staff time to pursue funds for the Martin County Courthouse Mural Restoration Project. Schuetz stated that the conservation assessment on the murals was performed and the report is expected to show worse damage than initially anticipated.

Motion by Koons, seconded by Schultze to approve use of EDA staff time to pursue grant funds for the Martin County Courthouse Mural Restoration Project. Carried unanimously.

**Consider Approval of Martin County Business Survey**

Schuetz presented a request to the board to survey businesses in Martin County by mail and requested $4,000 to do so. Schuetz said the goal of the survey is to understand businesses’ needs and how the EDA might help.

Terfehr asked how many businesses are in Martin County. Schuetz said he does not know the exact number, but more than 300. Discussion ensued. Patten said that surveying 1200 agricultural producers cost $2,700 by mail. Terfehr suggested allocating $2,000 to the survey.

Motion by Koons, seconded by Schultze to approve $2,000 in funds for the Martin County Business Survey. Carried unanimously.

**Approval of Bills**

Higgins reviewed June and July’s bills with the board. The total expenditures for June and July were $27,278.14.

Motion by Terfehr, seconded by Schultze to approve the bills in the amount of $27,278.14. Carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports**

Higgins reviewed the CY2024 (August) financial report with the board.

**Discussion**

Koons discussed the EDA’s broadband initiative with the board and stated that work is being done with Federated REA on the broadband partnership program. Koons stated an addendum to the existing grant agreement with FREA will need to be implemented due to how the original agreement was set up.

**Next Meeting**

The board elected to move the next EDA meeting to September 10th due to the Labor Day weekend and board member availability.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to wit,

The board meeting of the Martin County EDA was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Wes Anderson, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tim Terfehr, Secretary-Treasurer