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

 **September 10, 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, Steve Fosness. Those absent were: Elizabeth Miller, Jaime Blees. 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 Schultze, seconded by Terfehr to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Terfehr, seconded by Koons to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2024 Martin County EDA Board Meeting as presented. Carried unanimously.

**Retail Coach Update**

Patten said Fairmont has conducted an economic impact study and sent packages for prospect businesses and said a sandwich business is interested in coming to Fairmont. Patten said eight businesses are on the shortlist and they are now looking for franchisees for specific retail businesses.

**EDA Activity Report**

Schuetz and Patten reviewed the August 2024 EDA Activity Report with the board. Work on 21 projects was completed in August.

**Consider Approval of Grant Watch Subscription**

Patten presented a request to the board for a subscription to GrantWatch to assist EDA staff with identifying grants. The cost was $199.

Motion by Fosness, seconded by Terfehr to approve the subscription to GrantWatch in the amount of $199. Carried unanimously.

**Discuss Local Housing Trust Fund Ordinance**

Patten presented the county’s local housing trust fund ordinance to the board. Patten said the state is giving Martin County around $40,000 in 2025 that will be allocated to the fund.

**Discuss Martin County Entrepreneurship Program**

Schuetz requested board authorization to explore the creation of a program similar to Red Wing Ignite, in order to help structure the EDA’s consulting assistance to entrepreneurs. Schuetz said some of the services Red Wing Ignite provides, such as an angel investment fund and an incubator building, could be long-term goals for the EDA.

**Approval of Bills**

Higgins reviewed August’s bills with the board.

Motion by Koons, seconded by Fosness to approve the bills in the amount of $1,669.89. Carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports**

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

**Adjournment**

With no further business to wit,

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

The board meeting of the Martin County EDA was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

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 Wes Anderson, Board President

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 Tim Terfehr, Secretary-Treasurer