Board Meeting Minutes of the Martin County EDA
August 31, 2026 (September meeting)

The meeting of the Martin County Economic Development Authority was called to order by President Tim Terfehr at 5:15pm. Those present were: Billeye Rabbe, James Kloeckner, and Elizabeth Miller, Tom Lytle. Also present were Danielle Hayter-Johnson, Scott Higgins, Dave Schmidt, Amber Patten, Kevin Peyman, Kyle Cofer, Luke Ewald, and Fairmont Sentinel.

Agenda
Motion by Rabbe, and seconded by Elizabeth to approve the agenda.
Carried unanimously

Minutes
Motion by Kloeckner, and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2026 and June 1, 2026 meetings.
Carried unanimously

Presentations
Kyle Cofer from The Retail Coach attended the EDA meeting virtually and gave an update on retail business in Fairmont. Mr. Cofer spoke about the 5 Lakes mall and mentioned it's not if a retail store comes, but when a retail store comes. Unfortunately, we can't dictate timelines. Mr. Cofer also mentioned that several other properties are being looked at by franchises. Discussion ensued. EDA staff will keep Board members up to date.

Luke Ewald from Jackson/Martin County Rail to Trail committee attended the EDA meeting in-person and gave an informational only presentation regarding a trail that could potentially start in Jackson and end in Fairmont. Mr. Ewald also spoke about possible grants that could be applied for. The County Engineer, Kevin Peyman also spoke about current railroad usage. Discussion ensued. EDA staff will keep Board members up to date.

Old Business
None

New Business
EDA staff request approval of $87.00 for Broadband posters for the Martin County fair booth. Prior to printing, staff contacted EDA Board members and received approval to proceed, and provided that cost would not exceed $100. Motion by Miller, and seconded by Kloeckner to approve $87.00 Minuteman Press invoice for Broadband posters.

SMIF - BridgeE.D. Event. EDA staff request approval to attend SMIF Bridge E.D Partners Powering Economic Growth on October 3rd. Registration cost is $15 per person. Motion by Kloeckner, and a seconded by Miller to approve EDA staff to attend the SMIF Bridge E.D Partners Powering Economic Growth event.

EDA Activity Report
Hayter-Johnson reviewed the August EDA Monthly Activity Report.
No Board action was taken.

CY2027 Purposed Budget
Scott Higgins presented to the Board the CY2027 Purposed Budget.
Motion by Lytle, and seconded by Miller to approve the CY2027 Purposed Budget.
Carried unanimously

Open Discussion

- Hayter-Johnson mentioned that she will be leaving early on Thursday, Sept. 3rd to attend a Celebration of Life.

Adjournment
With no further business to wit,
Motion by Miller, and a seconded by Rabbe to adjourn the meeting
Carried unanimously
The board meeting of the Martin County EDA was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Tim Terfehr, Board President

Elizabeth Miller, Secretary/Treasurer