

BOTTINEAU CO. ECONOMIC CORP.
Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday February 19, 2020
St Andrews Conference Room D – 12 noon

Key: M-Motion, MS-Motion Second, VV-Voice Vote, RCV-Roll Call Vote, MC-Motion Carried

Board Present: Jon Beyer, Jerry Migler, Chuck Neubauer, Julie Mears, Alfred Sams, Jason Guss

Staff: Whitney Gonitzke, Executive Director, Crystal Grenier, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Mike Foster, Doug Marsden, John Kersten

1) Welcome / Call to Order – 12:05 pm

2) Director Review

Beyer requested the Board enter into Executive session for consideration of Whitney's review. Whitney and Crystal left the meeting for the duration. 12:07pm to 12:17pm. Upon return, board presented a favorable review; meeting was reopened.

3) Election of Officers

Jon Beyer shared his desire to step down as board president due to employment promotion/obligations. A replacement suggestion for Doug Marsden was discussed due to his current health condition. A city council member or an at large individual will be considered for Doug's board member position. The board will revisit the board president candidates and replacement for Doug at the March meeting.

4) Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting (December, Annual)

M-Guss, MS-Sams, VV, MC

5) Approve Financials –

- a) Narrative: Advance meeting with Jason, Alfred and Jon. Final Praxis billing. Submission to the DoC. Initial memberships have been received. Review of all ads/support the EDC has done in the past. About ½ will be cut this year.
- b) Loan Report: Birchwood -Decree is completed. P&H have all the updated information. The Preserve – separate discussion. 4J's – Letter sent.

M-Mears, MS-Migler, VV, MC

6) Payroll

- a) Approval of choice requested

A motion was made to utilize Chad Strand for EDC payroll. M-Sams, MS-Guss, VV, MC

7) The Preserve – Two Options

- a) Relinquish interest in property. Second lien holder takes over
- b) Finalize foreclosure. Taxes and assessments will be due. See attached. Proposal attached as well.

Whitney elaborated on this defaulted loan. A suggestion was made to put together a committee to further discuss the options available, and determine the best one to take with the EDC in mind. Chuck, Alfred and Jerry have volunteered to be on this committee with intentions to include the city and county.

8) EDC Discussion

- a) Mission: The Bottineau County EDC promotes the growth and prosperity for all living and working in Bottineau County.
- b) Since 2007: The EDC has granted through its Op budget, Gateway or the BCLP upwards of \$550k. See attached list.
- c) Examples of other communities: see next page.
- d) Options for future

Group Discussion on possible options for EDC future initiatives and projects. Comments made by Whitney indicated – if we continue to do the same things, we will get the same results. Other communities have upped their game and we need to as well. i.e Wahpeton, Garrison, etc. Options discussed: marketing campaign, support of DCB, StAHC, BHS, succession planning – student loan repayment, property – rehab/remarket buildings, PACE initiative, property value initiative.

9) Director Report

- a) EDND Conference to be held in Bottineau. June – committee needed. 3 days – 50 to 75 people.
- b) Building tours
- c) Volunteers needed from the Board for EDC policy updates. Similar to how we updated the handbook.

The conference is planned for June 16, 17, and 18. Whitney is in the process of organizing tours, lunches, etc. for this event. A committee is needed to come up with a theme idea, tour ideas, etc. Julie and Jerry have volunteered to be on this committee.

Whitney has been checking out community vacant buildings for future business occupancies. Most of them are in need of major repairs and updates, and price negotiations need to be more realistic.

Alfred and Jon have volunteered to assist with policy updates.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:38PM

Minutes compiled and submitted by Crystal Grenier & Whitney Gonitzke

Next Board Meeting: March 19, 2020