

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
AUGUST 19, 2014  
MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Jurchen, Commissioners Rieck, and Roggenkamp

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Stroot and Merritt

ALSO PRESENT: Sheila Haverkamp, BLAEDC; Chris Lindholm, School Superintendent; and Mayor Nancy Adams

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jurchen at 8:00 a.m.

2. Approval EDC Minutes

**COMMISSIONER ROGGENKAMP MOVED TO APPROVE THE 6/17/2014 EDC MINUTES. COMMISSIONER RIECK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

3. Update from Chris Lindholm

Chris Lindholm gave an update on some of the new staff members who have been hired at the School. He stated that the School Board approved the road map for the strategic plan. The School Board is currently discussing the new “levy authority” that has been granted to School Districts. They are also working with the preliminary levy.

4. BLAEDC Contract

Sheila Haverkamp addressed the EDC regarding the benefits and successes that have been seen. She noted that BLAEDC formed 30 years ago as a public private partnership to create economic development efforts in the County. They are funded by local units of government, the private sector, and through grants and have a budget of \$300,000 per year. BLAEDC’s goal is to build the community, expand business, and grow jobs. BLAEDC also supports the private sector with the goal of having them locate in the community. The City of Pequot Lakes’ funding is about 2% of the BLAEDC budget but it is important. Sheila discussed some of the projects she was instigative in recruiting to Pequot Lakes and noted the amount of taxes that they pay to the City. Commissioner Roggenkamp questioned the percentage increases in the BLAEDC funding request for the past several years. Sheila noted that since 2008 funding has decreased due to the economy and during past couple of years they are trying to get back to the 2008 level.

Chair Jurchen stated that we can't just measure what BLAEDC provides on a local basis but must also look at what is provided on a regional level. Commissioner Roggenkamp concurred.

**CHAIR JURCHEN MOVED TO SUPPORT THE BLAEDC 2015 FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,875 AND THAT THE EDC SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE COUNCIL INDICATING THE EDC'S SUPPORT OF BLAEDC AND THAT A COPY OF SHEILA HAVERKAMP'S SUMMARY OF SERVICES BE PROVIDED WITH THE LETTER. COMMISSIONER ROGGENKAMP SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

5. Informal Survey from Pequot Lakes Library Patrons

Mayor Adams reviewed the results from a survey on "What new business is most needed in Pequot Lakes?" that was posted at the Library. Discussion was held on how to deal with building vacancies. Discussion was also held on whether there would be a possibility of the City and School partnering to get some land through the Highway 371 project to be used for ball fields.

6. Internet Service Update

Chair Jurchen provided information on high speed broadband.

7. Minnesota Nice – Is Pequot lakes a Welcoming Place?

Chair Jurchen suggested that the City could use some greeters that would welcome people in the community.

8. Chamber Update

Mayor Adams noted that she was surprised to find that the Chamber was having difficulty getting restaurants to sign up for the Taste of Pequot and stated that the non-chamber member charge of \$150 for the day may be one of the reasons.

9. September Agenda Items

Representatives from the Chamber will be present. Chair Jurchen suggested talking about working on a united front with the Chamber and the City.

10. Other Business

Chris Lindholm stated that the School District is working with Crow Wing County on the traffic at Eagleview School. Cindy Roggenkamp informed the EDC that the Blue Grass festival will be held in Pine River this weekend. Sheila

Haverkamp noted that the Lakes Area Music Festival is held during the month of August at the Brainerd Tornstrom Auditorium. The shows are free and consist of classical music.

11. Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, CHAIR JURCHEN  
AJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:17 A.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Sandra A. Peine  
City Clerk