

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 17, 2013  
MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Jurchen, Cindy Rieck, Cindy Roggenkamp, and Bill Stroot

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barb Merritt

ALSO PRESENT: Sheila Haverkamp, BLAEDC; Mayor Nancy Adams; Dawn Bittner, Zoning Administrator; Sandy Peine, City Clerk; and Chris Lindholm, School Superintendent

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Approval EDC Minutes

**COMMISSIONER RIECK MOVED TO APPROVE THE 11/19/2013 EDC MINUTES. COMMISSIONER ROGGENKAMP SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

3. Technology Discussion

4. Resilient Region Project

Chair Jurchen updated the Commission members on the Resilient Region Program. He indicated that he had met with Stacy Stockdill to discuss the need for broadband infrastructure in this area. Chair Jurchen informed the Commissioners that there is a kick off meeting for Bridges Academy Career Fair on January 9<sup>th</sup>. There is also a Virtual Highway meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> at Arrowwood Lodge relating to technology.

The Commission discussed the need for technology growth in this area, education in technology and the need for a bridge between education and the workforce. Sheila Haverkamp stated that we are lacking the workforce that has the required skills for technology jobs. She stated that the larger companies need the work force to continue to grow and they are finding that there is a shortage. This could compromise the growth of the larger companies in the area. Sheila talked about a campaign to portray the area as "Tech Ready."

Discussion was held regarding the shortage of qualified workers and shortage of jobs for the spouses of the workers that are considering a job in this area. Mayor Adams suggested a job bank or portal that spouses could use to search for jobs.

Chris Lindholm spoke to the Commission regarding the strategic planning process that the School Board is presently working on. He explained that the process is looking at the vision of schooling and of what skills are needed for the workforce in 2020. The process will require input from the community and business owners.

5. Turnback Committee Report

Chair Jurchen explained that the Turnback Committee will be meeting with the City Council in January.

8. January Agenda Items

- Update on Resilient Region Program – Virtual Highway Meeting
- Turnback Update

9. Other Business

Tour of School

Chris Lindholm gave the members a tour of the school facility.

10. Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, CHAIR JURCHEN  
AJOURNED THE MEETING.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Peine  
City Clerk