

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, October 04, 2016**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on October 4, 2016. President Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:10 a.m. with Commissioners Jeff Drake, Leigh Shebeck, Don Maslow and Milt Paulson present. Absent were Janet Schicker and Sara Boyum. Also present was Karalee Brandner, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

Paulson made a motion to approve the agenda. Shebeck seconded. MCU

Maslow moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Drake seconded. MCU

Updates for this month:

- Hatchery Row – the building inspection information is not back yet on Hatchery Row.
- Tri City Living Update – There was discussion about the potential areas for development into an industrial park to the south and west of the city. Dorn noted that Henning has had success with a new employer coming into Henning's industrial park adding well-paying jobs and students to the school.
- Shebeck has had contact with an incubator business from Fergus Falls that is possibly looking to relocate to a community further east into Otter Tail County.
- Childcare Center – The Childcare Center committee has decided to scale down the plans for the youth center/child care center. Instead of a 2.4 million dollar project, they are looking at a 1.2 Million dollar project. Shebeck has been in contact with the Fergus Falls YMCA as a possible partner for the project. There was discussion on the YMCA possibly being able to be a resource for wellness equipment as well. There are plans in the works for Mike Henkenius and Kevin Foss to meet with the Rothsay School to get information on their childcare center.
- Strategic Planning – Drake listed the following as ongoing:
 - Loan pool program – Meeting with Dave Shornak with Arvig to obtain more information
 - Hatchery Row – awaiting information from building inspection
 - Tri City – Val to continue meeting with Tri – City and report back to EDA
 - Add listing of available commercial listings to the City Website, possibly including available office space, there was discussion of the possibility of office space for rent in the post office building, and perhaps the Westool building.
 - Reach out to potential business looking to expand into Battle Lake (Recruit)
 - Identify business gaps (i.e. – carwash)
 - Reach out to new business owners to see how the first year went and see if there is anything that they would need from the EDA: Randy has spoken with Nate at the Rusty Nail and Brad at Boathouse Pizza both exceeded their first year expectations. Randy will contact Dan or Marnie at the Williams Co. store to see how their first summer went. Leigh reported that the DQ will remain open until December 22nd and reopen by Valentine's Day. They will use this time to work on remodeling. The sportsman's club will be hosting a fishing derby over the winter, this led to discussion that business owners should work with the community organizations that host activities (especially in the off season) to promote their businesses.

The council agenda and past minutes were reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 am.

Next meeting will be November 1' 2016.