

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, February 1, 2018**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday, February 1, 2018. President Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Jeff Drake, Don Maslow, Leigh Shebeck and Steve Young present. Absent were Gene Kelm and Sara Boyum. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

Dorn made a motion to approve the agenda. Shebeck seconded. MCU. Drake moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Dorn seconded. MCU. Shebeck moved to approve the financials as presented. Dorn seconded. MCU.

Updates:

- Tri-City Living – the group is working on promotions through Social Media. They also met with Josh Rud from First National Bank to discuss some programs and possible cooperative loan ideas for commercial property.
- Hatchery Row - Martin and Dorn continue working with the property owners. A meeting of the visioning committee was held last night with a very small group in attendance. Duet Designs gave an abbreviated version of the presentation and the meeting will be rescheduled so they can all see the presentation in full.
- The commissioners discussed the request for advertising for the upcoming Battle Lake fishing contest. It was decided that it would make more sense to advertise on the front-end when they are trying to encourage people from outside the area to attend the event. Martin will promote via Facebook as well as the bank and the school to help get the information out.
- The Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Retreat was held January 17th. The results of the survey were revealed with four main projects coming out of the program. Committees were set up for each project. A Community Commencement will be the next step. The commissioners decided on April 16th with the 18th as a back-up date. Martin will check with Ryan Pesch. The meeting will be held in the school conference room and Jeff Drake will contact one of the organizations at school to serve some type of food with the EDA paying the fee for the food. We'll do a reception from 6:30 to 7:00 outside the media center with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m.

One of the projects that came out of the BR&E was to work on collaboration between EDA and Network Battle Lake (NBL). The committee for this project chose April 5th as a possible date to meet together. EDA commissioners decided that April 5th is not going to work for several members and chose Tuesday, April 10th at Shoreline. Martin will check with NBL to see if that date works.

The commissioners discussed the upcoming EDA/Council Retreat scheduled for February 27th. The date will be changed to the 26th and the retreat will start at 5:30 p.m. After discussion, the commissioners agreed on the agenda and the need to keep the evening informal. A survey monkey will be sent out prior to the meeting to the EDA and council and it will be one of the tools we use for discussion. We may not have enough time to actually come to some decisions that night, but the ultimate outcome will be to come out with a list of combined EDA/Council goals. We'll also use results of the BR&E, the goals from the comprehensive plan and the EDA goals as a starting point/reference for discussion.

Martin presented a list of 2017 EDA accomplishments. This report will be done each year and will be shared with the council and community as needed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 a.m.

EDA/Council Retreat scheduled for January 26th at 5:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:00 a.m.

Valerie J. Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer