

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, April 4, 2019**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday, April 4, 2019. Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Don Maslow, Jeff Drake, and Leigh Shebeck. Absent were Steve Young, Gene Kelm and Sara Boyum. Also present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer and Amy Baldwin, Otter Tail County Community Development Authority (CDA).

Drake made a motion to approve the agenda. Maslow seconded. MCU

Maslow made a motion to approve the minutes. Dorn seconded. MCU

Shebeck made a motion to approve the financials for January and February. Drake seconded. MCU

Visitors:

Amy Baldwin from the Otter Tail County Community Development Agency (CDA) was in attendance.

- Amy reviewed the process used for the creation of the CDA.
- The CDA is meant to be additive to what's already in place within the communities and assistance will be provided through a request.
- Goals include housing, business development assistance, fostering public and private partnerships, continue to work with the County on what types of things they are doing (strategic planning), childcare and more.
- The CDA is currently working on the process to request assistance and the criteria to evaluate applications.
- The CDA meetings are open to the public and information such as minutes and agendas are available on the County's web-site. Avenues of communication will continue including some type of annual meeting.
- Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at noon and will rotate locations throughout the County.
- Amy has reviewed Battle Lake EDA's priorities and said the CDA can help by:
 - Being available as a resource
 - Assistance with housing
 - Assist with business development
- CDA assistance to communities will be driven by what the community wants – they will have to ask for it.
- The CDA will be utilizing the County strategic planning process to assist in their goals.
- Assistance requests from prospective business owners will first be referred to that local EDA.
- Amy will be willing to come to a council meeting in the near future.

Updates:

Promotional Committee

- The group will be meeting next Monday with Erik Osberg training on social media.
- Shebeck spoke with Ryan Severson, Battle Lake High School Principal, about having students run the social media for the Live, Love, Lake, Battle Lake sites. Severson will see what kind of interest there is and will get back to us.

Hatchery Row

- Ed Larrivy would be interested in an option to purchase for his property as we've done with the other properties. He will work on a value and respond back to Randy Dorn.
- Some of the asbestos removal has been completed.

Battle Lake Map Signs

- Martin would like to order for the following locations: parking lot by LACC, Halvorson Park, Lions Park and the information kiosk. The signs will run \$100 to \$195 dependent on size. The commissioners agreed by consensus that the signs should be ordered. Drake is going to check on the information kiosk being built at the school and what they might need for an enclosed bulletin board. Shebeck shared some photos of a directory in Fergus Falls which shows a map and corresponding business locations. Martin suggested we could do these but maybe print them at City Hall and laminate to put in enclosed bulletin boards.

Housing

- Discussed housing needs and ideas for spec homes – working with the school? Working with a program that hires prisoners? Is David Fix's property south of Hidden Meadows a good spot for residential development?

Battle Lake Graduate Program

- Martin will need to discuss with the 542 Foundation to see if they are interested in working with us.

There will be no joint EDA/Council meeting on April 9th.

Adjourn at 8:08 a.m. Next meeting will be May 2, 2019 at 7:00 a.m.

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