

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, January 7, 2021**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday January 7, 2021 with some members participating via video conference pursuant to Minn. Stat.13D.021 due to a health pandemic. Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Darren Kern, Steve Young, Leigh Shebeck, Richard Bullard, Josie Schmidt, and Don Maslow present. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

Maslow made a motion to approve the following slate of officers: Randy Dorn, President; Leigh Shebeck, Vice-President and Val Martin, Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by Kern. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Schmidt, Bullard, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Kern made a motion to approve the agenda. Bullard seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Schmidt, Bullard, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Shebeck made a motion to approve the minutes. Young seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Schmidt, Bullard, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Shebeck made a motion to approve the financials. Kern seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Schmidt, Bullard, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

EDA Lot

Martin reported that Everts Lumber may also be interested but has not received an offer from them. She had expected John to be at this meeting.

COVID-19 – Assistance to Businesses

- Battle Lake COVID-19 Emergency Fund: Lions have donated \$5,000 with encouragement from the public to match their donation. Donations to date: \$9948.
- The County will be providing additional financial assistance to businesses with a priority of those businesses that are not receiving the assistance coming through the MN Department of Revenue.
- Restaurants will be able to go back to indoor dining at 50% capacity starting next Monday.

EDA Business Survey

Martin presented a compilation of the survey sent out to businesses in 2020. It was good information that can be used in making future decisions. Several comments were noted especially a discussion on the food trucks that were allowed south of the Dairy Queen on Chase's property. EDA members felt it wasn't fair, especially during COVID-19, to allow this all summer. The EDA would like to recommend the Council consider stronger regulations and a higher fee and include a process for the property owner if it is on private property. Kern said that the community he was in prior to Battle Lake charged the food truck owners a percentage of their gross income with proceeds going to help the brick-and-mortar businesses.

Hatchery Row:

The Developer's Agreement is approved by council, but some of the addendums need to be completed by the attorneys. Martin will check with them again.

Housing Committee

Minutes from the committee were reviewed including next steps and possible grant deadline. John Everts attended that meeting to discuss a possible project at his development northwest of Good Sam. There are several hurdles to get this project going but the committee will be working on it. It would be a great addition to the community. Martin will continue communication with John on a weekly basis.

Joint EDA Council Meetings

Commissioners felt these are valuable. Here are the dates for 2021:

- Tuesday, February 23, 2021 7:00 p.m. Goal setting/Strategic Planning
- Tuesday, June 8th 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 14th 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 14th 5:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting last year was held in February. The commissioners talked about a Zoom meeting but felt it made more sense for Martin to complete the Year in Review and get that out to everyone and possibly consider a fall luncheon.

Next meeting is February 4, 2021.

Adjourn at 8:05 a.m.

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