

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, May 5, 2021**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday April 8, 2021. Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Leigh Shebeck, Richard Bullard, Steve Young and Josie Schmidt present. Absent was Don Maslow Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

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

Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes. Shebeck seconded. MCU

Kern made a motion to approve the financials. Dorn seconded. MCU

Visitors

Dave Schornack was in attendance from Arvig. He was asked to attend and provide some general education on internet service and bandwidth speed in Battle Lake.

- Arvig can provide up to 1 Gig download speed and 25 MB upload speed within Battle Lake.
- Provider do share bandwidth with other providers.
- They continue to work on projects to expand service each year.
- One project is going south on 78 and onto Clitherall Lake.
- They are working with Otter Tail County to service areas that need more bandwidth improvement.
- They will work with businesses on service needs.
- Please let them know of concerns on internet speed or other issues.

Steve Henning was in attendance from AMS Digital Productions to discuss doing a promotional Battle Lake video.

- Some videos were shown that he created for West Central Initiative featuring Battle Lake.
- Discussion of the areas of focus include:
 - Focus on the family and what a great place Battle Lake is to raise a family.
 - Promoting development
 - Promoting existing businesses
- It might be a good idea to offer a promotional video that businesses could pay for themselves. These videos can be used as part of the Battle Lake promotion as a whole.
- Working Hatchery Row into the total concept would add to the finished product.
- Kern suggested a video class from school could do an ongoing feature of Hatchery Row from demo to new construction. He will contact the teacher.

Hatchery Row:

- Demolition is on schedule to occur next week.
- Architectural design is in the works.
- DEED Redevelopment grant was funded at just under \$175,000.
- DEED Clean-up and Investigation grant was submitted.
- The City received a \$25,000 grant from the OTC CDA for demolition.
- The developers are still considering a community space in the building. There was a discussion on the partners that might be interested such as the LACC, school, Art of the Lakes, etc.

Key rings and cards – will be presented to graduating seniors the end of the month by Dorn and Martin.

Goals and Priorities for 2021 – Tabled.

Career Page – County page is up and running.

CDA minutes were distributed and reviewed.

Dorn said that Ed Pawlenty is looking at retirement in a few years and would be interested to hear of anyone that would like to work as an apprentice and consider purchasing down the road.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 3, 2021.

Adjourn at 8:17 a.m.

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