

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, January 5, 2023**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in a regular session on Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 7:00 a.m. with Randy Dorn, Rich Bullard, Josie Thomopoulos, and Steve Young present. Absent were Rob Nudell, Sean Belmont, and Marjorie Quammen. Also present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer along with Janell Kraemer from the school/LACC Board and Reba Gilliland, Art Advisory Committee Representative.

Bullard made a motion to re-elect the slate of officers from 2022 for 2023 – Randy Dorn, President, Steve Young, Vice President, and Val Martin, Secretary/Treasurer. Thomopoulos seconded. MCU

Bullard made a motion to approve the agenda with additions. Thomopoulos seconded. MCU

Young made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dorn seconded. MCU

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

Hatchery Row

- Janell Kraemer gave a short update from the LACC Board. No decisions have been made concerning moving into Hatchery Row. They hope to make a decision at their January 17th board meeting. A consultant has been hired to help with the Hatchery Row process. They plan to hold a “Spring into Summer” promo, similar to the fall promotion. It was well received by both business owners and customers. They also plan to finalize their calendar at the January meeting.

High School Representative/School Update

- Janell Kraemer was in attendance; no high schoolers were available to attend. They are in the process of practicing for future competitions for the BPA.

Annual Meeting for 2023

- Date is February 2, 2023.
- Location is the school media center.
- Food will be catered by Battle Lake Boathouse – a pasta bar.
- Focus topic of the Annual Meeting will be on the workforce shortage – Martin is working on speakers. Rob Nudell and/or Ryan Severson will talk about school updates (5 to 10 minutes) and Randy Dorn will go through the 2022 Year in Review.
- Postcards will be mailed out to area businesses and organizations this week. An email reminder will be sent a couple of weeks prior to the event.

Radio Ads

Ads were recorded on December 7th. They will be airing in January.

Social Media Training – December 12th at 5:00 p.m.

- Thirty people attended. Martin reported the training was well-done and will plan on setting up a follow-up training in a few months.

Business Priorities – Action Items

- A sample survey was distributed with the changes requested by the Commissioners at the last meeting. The survey will be emailed to businesses this week.

Other Updates:

- Career Fair coming up in April with 30 businesses and colleges already registered. 75 invites were sent out. Students will learn to do a cover letter and a resume they can present to prospective employers. Mock interviews with juniors and seniors will be done using volunteers.

- The three-bedroom HRA home in Hidden Meadows has been sold.
- Scott Davis has purchased NBL marine.
- Robert and Kari Dorn have purchased EJ's floor covering.
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Upcoming meetings:

- Annual meeting on February 2nd at noon.

Adjourn at 8:05 a.m.

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