

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, February 2, 2023
ANNUAL MEETING**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met for their annual meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2023, at noon at the Battle Lake School Media Center with Commissioners Steve Young, Rob Nudell, Sean Belmont, Rich Bullard, Josie Thomopolous, and Randy Dorn present. Absent was Marjorie Quammen. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer. In attendance were about sixty visitors for the annual meeting program. A wonderful lunch was catered by the Battle Lake Boathouse.

Randy Dorn welcomed everyone and had attendees introduce themselves.

Rob Nudell gave an update on what's happening at the school:

- Battle Lake is one of 22 districts in the state with no debt
- Some work is being done on the roof and also the heating/cooling system.
- April 20th is the college and career fair at the school. They are still looking for businesses to participate by having a booth at the fair. It's a good opportunity to connect students with available jobs in Battle Lake, along with learning about career and college options.

Three students from the senior class and student council presented information on the school's strategic plan, the BPA program, and highlights of what's great about going to school in Battle Lake.

Amy Baldwin, from the Otter Tail County CDA, presented employment programs available through the CDA.

Sara Schake and Erik Osberg presented general information on the job market and some tips on what job seekers are looking for. They discussed the need for marketing your business and your employment opportunities. With the shortage of workers, employers need to do what they can to stand out in the market.

Amy Johnson, consultant for Cardinal Consulting presented information on the K-12 Navigator program and the Youth Workforce Navigation Program available through Otter Tail County. Both programs connect students and employers.

Members of the Lakes Area Community Center Board gave an update on their upcoming move to Hatchery Row, along with the events and promotions they have done and plan to do in 2023.

Randy Dorn closed the meeting with a synopsis of the EDA's Year in Review.

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