

**City of Battle Lake  
Economic Development Authority  
Thursday, August 20, 2024**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 7:00 a.m. with Rich Bullard, Josie Thomopoulos, Randy Dorn, Rob Nudell, Steve Young, and Majorie Quammen present. Absent was Sean Belmont. Also, present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer, Reba Gilliland representing the Battle Lake Arts Advisory Committee, and Sharon Casey representing the Lakes Area Community Center.

Nudell made a motion to approve the agenda. Bullard seconded. MCU  
Young made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Thomopoulos seconded. MCU  
Bullard made a motion to approve the financials. Nudell seconded. MCU

- Rob Nudell provided an update on the school’s construction project providing some digital videos of the future additions and remodeling.
- Seven people have filed for the school board for three positions.
- Four people have filed for city council for two positions and two people have filed for mayor.

The EDA Commissioners worked on Goals and priorities:

<b>1. Complete Hatchery Row Redevelopment. Goal is completed. Remove from list</b>
<b>2. Foster the relationship with area townships for economic development growth – invite members of Everts and Clitherall Townships to participate in EDA meetings by sending email packets and inviting them to attend meetings. Invite them to the March EDA meeting and provide breakfast either at City Hall or at Shoreline.</b>
Is the goals Specific/realistic? Yes.
How will we measure success? By getting them to a meeting with us
Is the goal Attainable? Yes
Is the goal Realistic? Yes
What is the Timeframe for this goal? October 2024
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: EDA will invite Clitherall and Everts Township officials to breakfast on October 15th at 7:00 a.m. during the regular EDA meeting. Items we have in common to discuss: VRBOs, public lake accesses, hemp/cannabis, water quality, stormwater, shoreland management, ambulance service
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? Randy will contact them personally
<b>3. Continue Business, Retention and Expansion Process</b>
•Continued communication with Network Battle Lake – work with them on projects as needed. •Continued communication with the Lakes Area Community Center Board. •Business communication – hold an annual breakfast & and business appreciation meeting each year in February and follow up with a newspaper article detailing the work of the EDA. •On-going yearly surveys to businesses.
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: The Commissioners discussed the yearly survey and how to continue with this. We have seen about 25-30 out of 120 returned. We need to continue the survey but skip until 2025.
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? Use the same approach as before but add - QR code to the mailed copy, consider commissioners personally handing a copy to business owners, and making reminder phone calls. Market projects that have been completed because of a specific survey result.

Housing needs to be moved to goals rather than ongoing priorities. The commissioners will continue to work on the goals at future meetings.

Other Updates:

- Gathering of Airplane – Airplanes – August 31st
- Welcoming week – September 14 -22 with many activities happening
- Breakfast and Brainstorming – September 18<sup>th</sup> at the newly remodeled bank
- Next meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:00 a.m.

Adjourn at 8:11 a.m.

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