

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, October 18, 2024**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 18, 2024, at 7:00 a.m. with Rich Bullard, Josie Thomopoulos, Randy Dorn, Rob Nudell, Steve Young, Sean Belmont and Majorie Quammen present. Also, present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer, and Reba Gilliland representing the Battle Lake Arts Advisory Committee. Members of Clitherall and Everts Townships were invited to attend. Those present from Clitherall Township were Tom Frank and Craig Bengston. Also present was Shawn Frank.

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

- Commissioners discussed the Otter Tail Lakes Country Membership. The City Council paid the \$3,000 membership but requested the EDA pay the additional \$2,000 to go to the next membership level. This level provides more opportunities and marketing exposure. Bullard made a motion to approve the payment of \$2,000 from the 2024 budget for the 2025 membership. Belmont seconded. MCU Dorn suggested they see how it makes a difference from one year to the next.
- Steven Henning was present and showed the videos for YouTube. He requested an additional \$500 for the extra work. EDA Commissioners would like to see the finished product first.
- Martin presented a list of questions that Leigh Shebeck will use as he does individual, in-person site visits to businesses. The EDA will receive reports each month from Shebeck. Nudell made a motion to approve the questions. Belmont seconded. MCU Shebeck will interview a few a month.

The Commissioners moved to the meeting with township officials. Time was limited so the discussion centered around ambulance services. Ringdahl serves the City of Battle Lake and several townships. They are in the process of moving to a lower level of service. They believe they are struggling financially and have asked Cities and townships to voluntarily contribute to help them with continuity of services. The Battle Lake City Council did not contribute as they felt it was hard to justify without getting some financial history. The discussion continued with ideas on starting our own service and other ideas. The group decided that this was a conversation that should be continued with a meeting dedicated specifically to this subject.

- Other Info – Breakfast and Brainstorming – November 20, 2024 – 7:30 a.m. at Neverbetter
- Next EDA Meeting – Tuesday, December 17, 2024 @ 7:00 a.m.
- Consideration of different day for meetings
- March 26, 2025 – College and Career Fair at School

Adjourn at 8:02 a.m.

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