

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, March 6, 2025**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 6, at 7:00 a.m. with Rich Bullard, Randy Dorn, Rob Nudell, Steve Young, and Majorie Quammen present. Joining virtually were Josie Thomopolous and Sharon Casey. Also present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director, and Reba Gilliland representing the Battle Lake Arts Advisory Committee.

Election of Officers:

Nudell made a motion to election Dorn as president, Young as Vice President and Martin as Secretary/Treasurer. Bullard seconded. MCU

Nudell made a motion to elect Sharon Casey as Commissioner to replace Sean Belmont. Dorn seconded. MCU

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

Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes with amendments. Quammen seconded. MCU

EDA Annual Meeting Recap – February 6th at the school media center. Thanks to the school for hosting and a good lunch was served by Rusty Nail. About 60 people were in attendance with Ian Carlstrom from SCDC as the main speaker. Dorn stated that he heard many good comments about all of the speakers and the event.

Business Improvement Grant Program – Received a donation of \$1400 from the Battle Lake Lions. Martin has not heard back from the Deer Creek Lions Club. With the COVID funds of \$3600 and a grant of \$1000 from the Community Fund, we would have \$6,000. Dorn made a motion to donate \$4,000 from the EDA to make a total of \$10,000 and to approve the guidelines as amended. Bullard seconded. MCU The City Council will be asked to approved a resolution so we can apply for a matching \$10,000 CDA grant.

Dorn reported that the Rusty Nail will soon have a new owner.

Gilliland reported the success of an art grant application. This grant will provide an opportunity to work with Talking Trails and will be a self-guided tour to 30 destinations in Battle Lake. It should be ready before Wenonga Days.

Gilliland also reported that the Art Advisory Committee is working on ideas for the alley behind the Boathouse/Stella's to beautify that area. The committee starts working next week and hope to bring ideas to the property owners soon.

The Battle Lake brochure needs reprinting, and the Commissioners suggested some changes. Consider less words, more bullet points, add the talking trail information on the brochure.

- Community Roundtable – Wednesday, March 12th at Noon
 - Upcoming – May 21st - Possible training with SBDC on Transition Planning
 - Other Training Ideas for the Roundtable Events?
- Empowering Small Minnesota Communities Program – April 3rd at 6:00 p.m.
- Otter Tail County Community Development Agency Annual Report for 2024 was distributed

Nudell gave an update on the school: Meeting with the contractor in the next two weeks, the application for a safe room (tornado shelter) has been submitted, there is a meeting regarding childcare and preschool education on Monday. This is to get all the partners in the city together to work on the needs of the community.

Adjourn at 8:00 a.m.

Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer

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