

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Economic Development Committee

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date: Thursday, January 28, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair David Danzinger.

Board Members Present: Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Douglas Kane, Ms. Nettie Rosenow, Ms. Mary Anne McMillan Urell, and Mr. David Eddy.

Others Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Teresa Waters, Mr. Carl Duley, Mr. David Brommerich, Mr. Greg Wise, Mr. Dennis Hetrick, Mr. Brian Suchla, Mr. Steven Deller, and Mr. Greg Flogstad.

Public Comments Regarding Posted Agenda Items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Organization of the Committee: The appointment of Vice Chair was discussed. Mr. Kane made a motion to nominate Ms. McMillan Urell as the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Rosenow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding an Update on EDA Grant by Carl Duley: Mr. Duley spoke about working with Mr. Flogstad to apply for an Economic Development Grant for areas affected by the closing of coal generating facilities. Buffalo County was awarded the grant, which is a 50/50 cost share but the costs will be shared among different agencies. The timeline for the grant is October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. An extension could be granted, but the committee does not feel it would be needed at this time.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding an Update on Buffalo County Community Development Committee: There have been three community forums conducted. A review of trends and community assets was completed. There should be a focus on what is great about Buffalo County and why people should choose to come here. Keeping the natural resources of Buffalo County is important, but so is attracting business. A full report can be seen on the UW-Extension website.

Review/Discussion Presentation on County Structures for Economic Development by Greg Wise (UW-Extension): Mr. Wise explained that there is no right or wrong way to set this up, it must be whatever works for the County. There needs to be a collaboration with community groups and chambers of congress. There would also be the possibility of a collaboration with other counties. There needs to be open and honest communication with area businesses. A work plan needs to be developed that meets the vision of the county. Economic Development is not something that can be done all at once, rather a long term job.

Public Comments: None.

The next meeting will be March 9th at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Eddy made a motion to adjourn at 3:10 p.m., seconded by Ms. Rosenow. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk