

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Economic Development Committee

Date of the Meeting: Thursday March 17, 2022

V. Chair Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at the Buffalo County Courthouse, County Board Room in Alma, Wisconsin.

Board Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss (Excused), Mr. David Danzinger (TEAMS) Lost Communication (1035), Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht, Mr. Thomas Taylor and Ms. LeeAnne Bulman.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Mr. Steve Schiffli, Mr. Ryan VanDeWalle, Ryan VanDeWalle, (TEAMS) Brommerich News Service.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes as written by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Bulman. carried.

Review/Discussion ~ (Update) Financial Report- Mr. Schiffli presented a financial update. There were no questions.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Branding, North of Eight Marketing

Mr. Schiffli advised the committee, due to the late start our purposed contractor was unable to present. I discussion was held. Mr. Schiffli replied to previous questions. Committee agreed the county should move forward with branding. Mr. Schiffli also emphasized a need make sure all future marketing campaigns involve the City of Mondovi. It was relayed to Mr. Schiffli that the previous brochures were more focused on the 35 corridor. It is suggested that Buffalo County work with the Mondovi Business Association when it comes time to create the brochure.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Great River State Trail Update

Mr. Schiffli presented the second quarter report from SEH. Highlighted was the RR crossing information is at State DOT working approval with the railroad. There looks like little to no environment impact requirements with wetlands. The need for retention walls may not be required along the route associated with the power poles. April 14, 2022, is the Public Information Meeting concerning the project in the Town of Buffalo. Mr. Schiffli indicated it needs to be a posted meeting with a quorum of members present to answer questions of public concern.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ End of Year Report

Mr. Schiffli presented an end of year report to the Committee for their review and approval. Mr. Schmidtknecht requested that Broadband be added to the report with the following detail:

Municipality, Service Pop, Budgeted Expenditure. Motion to approve the report with additions was made by Ms. Bulman, Seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Resignation

Mr. Schiffli submitted his resignation to the County pursuant to the County Personnel Manual on March 7, with his last day being April 7. Mr. Schiffli has indicated he is working with Mr. VanDeWalle on the transition.

Review/Discussion/ ~ Managers Report- Mr. Schiffli presented an oral report. Mr. Schiffli discussed the Governors Conference on Economic Development.

Review/Discussion ~ Chairperson Report – Vice Chair Schmidtknecht brought up the discussion of dissolving the Broadband Subcommittee. A discussion was held. It was discussed that the objectives of the subcommittee have been met and it is no longer necessary. The mechanism is in place to support Broadband Forward. Mr. Schmidtknecht also asked about “Seed Money” for the revolving loan fund. Mr. VanDeWalle will look into ARPA dollars.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Next Meeting will be Thursday April 14, 2021, from 5-7pm at the Town of Buffalo Hall. Public Information Meeting, Great River State Trail – Winona Connector is the agenda item, followed on May 19, 2022, at 10:30 am, normal business meeting.

Motion by Ms. Bulman to adjourn.

The last set of minutes respectfully submitted to the County Clerk by Stephen S. Schiffli after 18 years of service to Buffalo County directing 4 department, 5 committees and 2 subcommittees:

Stephen S. Schiffli, Economic Development Manager