

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, JUNE 28, 2011
6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of Agenda.
3. Approval of Minutes.
 - A. May 25, 2011
4. Approval of Financial Reports.
 - A. June 2011
5. New Business
 - A. Guest: Tim Dolan, SEDCO Director – Discussion SEDCO Goals/Activities and Areas for Potential Collaboration
 - B. Funding Request: \$750 Small Business Development Center – Mankato
 - C. Capital Improvement Plan Requests
6. Old Business.
 - A. Goal Setting.
7. Board Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
8. Adjourn



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 28, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President Lundstrom at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Krueger, President Lundstrom, Nuesse, Thomes, Councilmember Pichelmann,
Councilmember Ruehling

Member Absent: Sorenson

Also Present: EDA Director Smith-Strack, Tim Dolan

Motion by Krueger, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Krueger, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the May 24th meeting as presented.

The May Financial Reports were reviewed.

Motion by Ruehling, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the April Financial Reports as presented.

SEDCO Director Tim Dolan was present. He gave a brief history/summary on the organization. He stated that their goal is to enhance businesses within Sibley County. SEDCO is an optimistic group and is about collaboration and networking. Dolan commented that they are seeking grants to assist businesses with marketing, capital planning, business transition planning, etc. He commented that SEDCO has a Revolving Loan Fund and has also initiated the Minnesota Communities Capital Fund and commented on how they can be used. It was noted that they are currently working on the Fiber-to-the-Home project. Krueger commented that he would like to see some strategic direction from SEDCO, help with educating people about and/or marketing Sibley County. Dolan said they are trying to do this currently, but have limitations. Some discussion was held on working together with the railroad and the regional trail system. Smith-Strack inquired about the possibility of sharing data between Arlington EDA and SEDCO. Dolan commented that he would be open to attending Arlington EDA meetings as needed to keep communication open and projects moving forward.

Brief discussion was held on the Small Business Development Center Funding request of \$750.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to table discussion/action on the Small Business Development Center Funding request until such time as the SBDC Representative can meet with SEDCO in August.

Smith-Strack commented that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) needed to be reviewed/updated in conjunction with the 2012 Budget process. She stated that last year the EDA didn't have any funds allocated for capital expenditures. She commented that after reviewing the EDA goals that were set earlier in the year, that some of them could be targeted for funding within the CIP and gave some examples of what qualified as a project. Krueger commented that he would like to see funds set aside for feasibility studies, which will help give the EDA some direction on various topics (such as healthcare opportunities, senior housing needs, railroad, etc.). Smith-Strack commented that she would like to see allocation for purchase options on various properties in/around city limits.

Smith-Strack presented information that she tabulated for goal setting and/or work planning items from the goal survey that was done in April. Considerable discussion was held. Smith-Strack will be contacting various property owners to see what their plans are for their respective properties and if the EDA can help in any way.

Krueger commented that he has had conversations with a few individuals about the possibility of utilizing the EDA property(ies) for low impact/recreational activity (such as establishing a driving range, etc.).

Smith-Strack commented that she would be on vacation at the end of July and inquired about changing the July meeting date. It was the consensus to set August 2nd as the date for the next meeting.

Motion by Lundstrom, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm

President, Mark Lundstrom

Director, Cynthia Smith-Strack