



Economic Development Authority

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2015 @ 6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of Agenda.
4. Approval of Minutes.
 - A. April 28, 2015
5. Approval of Financial Reports.
 - A. April 2015
 - B. May 2015
6. Business.
 - A. Guest: Dave Krueger, Jennifer Nelson Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
 - B. SEDCO Reorganization
 - C. Small Business Development Center Donation Request
 - D. Façade Grant Program
 - E. EDA Updates: Active Aging, Industrial Park Platting
7. Board Announcements.
8. Adjourn

**MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 30, 2015 @ 6:00 PM**

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

Members Present: Vice President Bergersen, Hatlestad, Kloeckl, Councilmember Nuesse

Member Absent: Sorenson, President Thomes, Councilmember Battcher

Also Present: Director Smith-Strack, David Krueger and Jennifer Nelson from Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, Mayor Nagel

Motion by Kloeckl, seconded by Nuesse, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Kloeckl, seconded by Hatlestad, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the April 28th meeting as presented.

The April and May Financial Reports were reviewed.

Motion by Nuesse, seconded by Hatlestad, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the April and May Financial Reports as presented.

Dave Krueger and Jennifer Nelson were present on behalf of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) to provide insight/background on the foundation and how it works alone and with other businesses and/or organizations. Krueger explained that there were seven Initiative Foundations throughout Minnesota and each had their own focus areas. SMIF's focus areas were early childhood development, economic development, community development and philanthropy. It was noted that in the last three years SMIF has invested \$195,000 into Sibley County. Discussion was held on the various programs offered by SMIF, which included loans/grants, childcare, entrepreneur, and working with Dunwoody College on educating for manufacturing/trades (i.e. welding).

The Committee reviewed a letter from Richard Thomes (of SEDCO) regarding the re-organization of SEDCO and the potential changes that will come along with it. Smith-Strack commented that she had talked with Thomes at length on this subject. The question was asked what the EDA was looking for from SEDCO. It was commented that marketing and 'branding' the county as a whole (make neighboring areas knowledgeable of Sibley County) and having some type of ag and/or trade school in the county (keep local kids local) were areas SEDCO could help with.

The EDA reviewed a donation request for \$2,000 from the Small Business Development Center (MSU Mankato). It was noted that the EDA donated \$250 in 2007 and \$1,000 in 2009. There was some reluctance to donate since there was no evidence that any funds had been utilized in Arlington in the past. No authorization was made, no donation will be made.

Smith-Strack commented that a Purchase Agreement had been initiated, but not signed for the property at 105 4th Avenue NW. She suggested tabling discussion on the proposed Façade Grant Program until either the sale occurs or cancels. The funds from the sale were intended to start the proposed program. It was the consensus to postpone discussion until the next meeting.

Smith-Strack commented that Seneca had filed a request to terminate the easement for the gravel road that runs behinds Seneca Foods. She stated that the Council would be discussing this in an upcoming special closed meeting.

Smith-Strack commented that she recently attended a meeting regarding active aging with various entities. There were a lot of good topics discussed and information shared at the meeting. Nuesse suggested budgeting for active aging within the CIP.

Motion by Kloeckl, seconded by Nuesse, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 pm

Vice President Dean Bergersen

Director Cynthia Smith-Strack