

**Meeker Count Economic Development Authority**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday March 14, 2019 @ 5:30 pm**  
**Meeker County Family Services Building in Suite 200**

Present: Mike Housman, Chuck Lietzau, Tim Benoit, Mike Lokken, Mike Doering, Chris Loew & Dave Krueger

Absent: Mark Smith, Dennis Loch

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by President Mike Housman.

Public comment: none

The board welcomed new board member – Commissioner Tacheny

M/S Benoit/Lietzau to approve the agenda Motion Carried

M/S Lietzau/Doering to approve the minutes for the January 10, 2019 meeting. Motion carried

M/S Benoit/Doering to approve the 2019 January/February financial summaries. Motion carried

M/S Lokken/Benoit to approve March 7, 2019 EDA/County Commissioner joint meeting minutes. Motion carried

Discussion topics amongst board members during the meeting:

- \* Joint EDA/Commissioner meeting thoughts –
  - o It was a good starting point with cohesiveness and a confidence builder
  - o To keep both boards in the loop, maybe have a joint meeting once a year – Aprilish?
  - o Maybe going forward we share with other county municipalities what is happening
  
- \* The Boards workplan priorities – maybe the board needs to pick 1 topic to focus on
  - o Housing #1 – the EDA has the powers to function under and we can help under those powers, MN Housing Partnership has the mechanisms and expertise. Work with the Mkr Co.Housing Task Force Committee on how to engage the process
  - o Childcare/Workforce/Microloans – other partners to help with and lead, not our expertise, we are more involved as supporting roles

M/S Lokken/Doering to approve Commissioner Housman to attend the Meeker Co. Elected Officials Housing Task Force Committee Meetings. He will also be paid a per diem and mileage. Motion Carried

M/S Lietzau/Benoit to approve per diem and mileage for Commissioner Housman when attending Housing Task Force Committee meetings. Motion Carried

M/S Lietzau/Benoit to approve the State Auditor Understanding of Services for the EDA 2018 Audit. Motion carried

Updates:

- ❖ Economic Development – Ex Director Krueger updated the board on the following items-
  - o loan completed for Star Lake Fabrication, upcoming refinance for current loan recipient
  - o Housing Task Force Steering Committee
  - o Opportunity Zones
  - o Childcare

- Workforce Development -Lyft program
- Working w/ Mkr Co. Historical Society – events, marketing
- LFD CVB – Doing their first big event – LFD Band Festival June 18, 2019
- ❖ Community –
  - Cosmos – moving a lot of water to help prevent flooding with all the melting snow and rain, Learning Center received a grant to help with taking down the gymnasium and another wing of the old school
  - Dassel - Benoit met with the new owner of the Sunrise Café in Dassel and currently she seems to be going down the path with the restaurant, the gas tanks have been pulled at Ron's
  - Grove City – like everyone else there is a definite need for housing in the city
  - LFD – lots of needs to expand, there is a company that is looking for space to rent to expand, but currently not able to find the right building size in LFD

M/S Doering/Tacheny to approve Executive Director David Krueger's letter of resignation with Dave's last day being March 29, 2019. Motion Carried

There was discussion amongst board members to what would be the best option in moving forward with the vacant Executive Director position. Consultant vs hiring a full time Executive Director. Board members decided it would be best to schedule a meeting to discuss how they would like to proceed forward with this position.

M/S Lokken/Lietzau to approve a meeting date and time to be scheduled to have a special board meeting to discuss the options to fill the vacant Executive Director position.

M/S Lokken/Loch to approve adjourning the meeting at 7:06 pm. Motion Carried

**These unapproved meeting minutes**