

Meeker County Economic Development Authority
Tuesday March 13, 2025, at 5:30pm
Meeker County State Highway Building Breakroom
Litchfield, Minnesota

Present: Brent Bengtson, Kim Dolan, Mark Smith, Terri Boese, Butch Schmeling, Joe Kuechle, Chris Loew & Consultant Graphenteen.

Absent: Jason McCoy, Steve Schmitt & Darren Sombke

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Vice President Kim Dolan.

Public comment: no one present.

M/S Boese/Schmeling to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

M/S Bengtson/Schmeling to approve the Jan 9, 2025 & the Feb 4, 2025, Special mtg minutes. Motion carried

M/S Smith/Boese to approve the January, February and accountant 2024 YE financials. Motion Carried.

Consultant Graphenteen presented to the board 2 Housing Development Project requests. Litchfield HRA is requesting from the EDA a \$20,000 - 0% forgivable loan to purchase a piece of land for future housing development. The HRA is also looking to Meeker County Statewide Affordable Housing Aid (SAHA) funding and the City of LFD to also financially participate in the project. Habitat for Humanity is requesting a 0% deferred loan of \$45,000, repayable after five years to assist with land acquisition and development costs for five homes. Since this project is a good fit with the Statewide Affordable Housing Aid guidelines, it was recommended this financing request be presented to the Meeker County Board of Commissioners for consideration. After discussion amongst board members, they came up with a motion.

M/S Kuechle/Boese to approve the following proposal: Provide a \$20,000 0% forgivable loan to the Litchfield Housing and Redevelopment Authority for a five-year term. If the HRA does not start development on the site within the five-year term, the land will revert to the EDA. The funding is also contingent upon approval of County SAHA funding and City of Litchfield funding. Motion carried.

Consultant Graphenteen will go to the county board requesting to use a total of \$140,000 of SAHA funds in the amount of \$95,000 for the Litchfield HRA project and \$45,000 for the Habitat for Humanity project.

Updates:

Econ Dev – Consultant Graphenteen reviewed her activities for Jan & Feb with the board

Office – Admin Asst has been working on Audits for both entities, & info to acct for YE financials

Community Updates – Board members shared their community happenings.

M/S Bengtson/Schmeling to approve adjourning the meeting at 6:30 pm. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by
Chris Loew, Secretary