



EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

February 25, 2019
100 Park Street South
Mora, MN 55051
7:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Bob Bollenbeck – Kanabec Co. Public Interest
Carla Dunkley – Tribal Representative
Kathi Ellis – Kanabec Co. Commissioner
Linda Evans – Mille Lacs Co. Public Interest
Tim Franklin – Pine Co. Municipalities
Gordon Gullixson–Kanabec Co. Municipalities
Richard Hansen – Isanti Co. Townships
Robert Hoefert, Mille Lacs Co. Townships
Jeanette Kester – Pine Co. Public Interest
John Mikrot, Jr. – Pine Co. Commissioner
Scott Moe – Northern School Boards
Ben Montzka – Chisago Co. Commissioner
Dave Patenaude – Kanabec Co. Townships
Genny Reynolds–Mille Lacs Co. Commissioner
Kevin Stenson-Chisago Co. Municipalities
Terry Turnquist – Isanti Co. Commissioner

Commission Members Absent:

Loren Davis – Isanti Co. Public Interest
Diane Larkin – Chisago Co. Townships
Jim Swenson – City of North Branch
Glen Williamson – Pine Co. Townships

Staff Present:

Bob Voss – Executive Director
Karen Onan, Community Development
Trish Rydlund – Office Manager
Penny Simonsen – Transportation
Jordan Zeller - Economic Development

1. **WELCOME:** Chairman Montzka called the regular meeting of the East Central Regional Development Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **AGENDA APPROVAL:** Hansen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Hoefert seconded – motion carried.
3. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2018 ECRDC board meeting. Reynolds seconded – motion carried.
4. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director Voss provided a written report and highlighted several items including:
 - a. **CHISAGO COUNTY PUBLIC INTEREST REPRESENTATIVE:** One application was received by Tom Lawlor of Chisago City for the Public Interest Representative vacancy. A recommendation was made to the Commission to appoint Tom Lawlor as the Chisago County Public Interest Representative. Motioned by Stenson to approve Tom Lawlor as recommended. Moe seconded – motion carried.
 - b. **MILLE LACS COUNTY PUBLIC INTEREST REPRESENTATIVE:** One application was received by incumbent Linda Evans. A recommendation was made to the Commission to reappoint Linda Evans as the Mille Lacs County Public Interest Representative. Motioned by Reynolds to approve Linda Evans as recommended. Hoefert seconded – motion carried.
 - c. **CHISAGO COUNTY PERSONNEL & BUDGET (P&B) REPRESENTATIVE:** Motioned by Hoefert to appoint Kevin Stenson as the Chisago County representative to the P&B. Evans seconded – motion carried.
 - d. **AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER:** Motioned by Ellis to sign the audit agreement letter for CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to audit the financial statements for FY2019. The estimated cost will be \$10,100. This is the third year of the three-year audit agreement. Seconded by Stenson – motion carried.

- e. **AGENDA AMENDMENT:** Hansen moved to amend the agenda to include a resolution authorizing submission of grant application to MnDOT for conducting the implementation phase for the Regional Transportation Coordinating Council. Kester seconded – motion carried.
 - f. **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL RESOLUTION:** Motioned by Hoefert authorizing submission of grant application to MnDOT for conducting the implementation phase for the Regional Transportation Coordinating Council. Seconded by Moe – motion carried.
6. **TREASURERS REPORT:** The Board reviewed the December 2018 through January 2019 Treasurer’s report as presented by Commissioner Ellis. Gullixson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report to include the checks written #10184 through #10231 along with ACH payments from December 1, 2018 through January 30, 2019. Hansen seconded – motion carried. General Journals were reviewed and approved for the period December 1, 2018 through January 30, 2019.
7. **TRANSPORTATION:** Simonsen reported on the following items:
- a. **LAKE MILLE LACS SCENIC BYWAYS (LMSB) CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT STUDY:** The ECRDC has been asked to take the lead in completing a corridor management plan for the LMSB beginning July 1, 2019 with approximately \$75,000 available for the project. This will develop a community-based Corridor Management Plan for the LMSB. This will outline goals, strategies, and responsibilities for preserving and promoting the newly designated 68-mile scenic byway. Motioned by Evans to approve moving forward with the corridor management plan. Seconded by Bollenbeck – motion carried.
 - b. **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) APPLICATIONS:** Applications were received from Pine City in District 1, along with Taylors Falls, and Lindstrom in the MnDOT Metro District. The next TAC meeting is scheduled from April 18th.
8. **EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL (ECRTCC):** Onan reported on recent meetings that were held.
- a. **TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC MEETINGS:** Three of the four required public meetings have been held sparking conversation. From the meetings the following objectives have been addressed:
 - Office of Mobility Management
 - Viable Volunteer Driver Program
 - Vehicle Sharing
 - Intermodal Transportation Center Hubs
 - Need for more Bus Drivers
 - b. **PHASE 2 – IMPLEMENTATION OF ECRTCC:** Staff will be working on the Phase 2 – Implementation application over the next few weeks. Application for this project is due April 12, 2019.
9. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Zeller brought forth the following recommendations:
- a. **COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) BOARD VACANCIES:** There are two vacancies on the CEDS Advisory Board. Motioned by Hoefert to appoint Genny Reynolds, Mille Lacs County Private Sector, to the CEDS Advisory Board. Dunkley seconded – motion carried. The other vacancy is for a Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. At this time there was no applications for this position. Advertising, phone calls, and social media will be done to fill this position.
 - b. **INVENTORS & ENTREPRENEURS CLUB:** The ECRDC is partnered with East Central Energy & GPS 45:93 to hold an event on October 31st focused on supporting local entrepreneurs and inventors encouraging them to start and grown their business here in the region.
10. **TOPICS OF REGIONAL INTEREST:** The City of Lindstrom has been approved for \$3.3 million in increment financing for the development for proposed 92 apartments, marina and restaurant complex, on Hwy. 8 at the east edge of South Lindstrom Lake.

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11. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Montzka announced the next meeting will be on April 22, 2019 at the ECRDC offices. Evans moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the ECRDC. Hansen seconded – motion carried.



Robert L. Voss, Executive Director



Ben Montzka, Chairman

