

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2022

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Hughes at 6:47 a.m.

Present: Jim Beal, Christine Black-Hughes, Anthony White, Tony Dickmeyer, John Whittington, Brian Hughes, and Brooke Wach

Staff Present: Jennifer Bromeland and Kerry Rausch

Approval of Agenda:

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was presented. The change in revolving loan fund is due to the repayment of the childcare forgivable loan funds to Blue Earth County. Funds in the small city development program fund stay with the city and have specific uses.

New Business:

1. Strategic Economic Development Planning Process with Region 9

A. Residential Survey Response Rate and Other Updates

- Approximately 220 online survey responses and about 150 hard copies have been returned.
- Region 9 staff will attend the June 16th Music on Partway event to promote survey completion.
- Region 9 initially thought of holding a photo contest but has changed it into a drawing contest.
- The scope of the Region 9 contract includes develop and conduct survey, conduct interviews, moderate community input sessions, compile and analyze data and present for public review. The contract runs through September 2022. Dates may be able to be modified.

2. Main Street Economic Revitalization Program – Recent REDA/GMG Grant Award

A. Review grant eligibility requirements and discuss opportunities for existing and prospective businesses in Eagle Lake

- REDA recently received a grant award through the Main Street Revitalization Program in the amount of \$2 million dollars. They are currently working through the application development and award process and acceptance process.
- The EDA discussed potential eligible businesses and the desire to assist local businesses in the application process when it becomes available.

3. Childcare Forgivable Loan

- Funds for the Childcare Forgivable Loan have been returned to Blue Earth County. The City will promote this loan program to existing childcare businesses within the city.
- Administrator Bromeland stated she will look into getting funding for another childcare provide dinner with SMIF.

4. Other Updates

- An update was provided relating to the motorsports development.
- An update was provided for the housing development proposed by Troy Schrom.
- Concern was expressed about outside storage in the business districts.
- Dogs off leash in the city parks were discussed.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 a.m.