Winnebago County Industrial Development Board

Meeting Minutes for the September 11, 2024 meeting

James Coughlin Center, Meeting Room A
625 E. County Road Y, Oshkosh, WI

Board Members Present: Nate Gustafson, Morris Cox, Lucas Reinke, Sam Schroeder, Amber Hoppa, Mary Anne Mueller, Tom Egan, Colan Treml

Board Members Excused: Frank Frassetto, Jon Doemel, Logan Fuller

Others Present: George Dearborn, Jamie Rouch, Ellen Skerke, Brian Noe, Barbara VanClake, Tricia Rathermel, Bob Schmeichel (virtual), Kelly Faust-Kubale (virtual), Brad Schmidt (virtual), Adam Dorn, Julie Rosenau, Jerry Bougie

A. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 1:13 pm by Vice-Chair Nate Gustafson.

B. Approval of Minutes.

1. Motion was made by Mary Anne Mueller and seconded by Morris Cox to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2024 meeting. Motion passed 8-0.

C. Business Items

1. Introduction of Board members. The Board members introduced themselves.

2. WORKSHOP – with Local Communities and Economic Development entities to Review the Policies and Procedures for the Winnebago County IDB Per Capita Grant Funding Program.

A. Overview: Vice-Chair Nate Gustafson indicated that Jerry Bougie will go through the proposed changes to the IDB's grant funding policies.

B. Discussion on Draft recommended policy revisions:

1. Policies, 2. Eligible and Ineligible Projects/Programs, 3. Procedures: Jerry Bougie presented the draft recommended revisions to the IDB's Per Capita Grant Funding Program & Procedures. He indicated that some of the changes are simply clarifications and updates, while other changes represent changes to policies related to grant eligibility. The key proposed policy changes included expanding the definition of what qualifies as a viable economic development program, updating the type of marketing efforts that are eligible for funding, and adding housing studies and programs as an eligible funding criterion. The Board discussed the proposed changes as presented. Suggestions by Board members included defining the words "communities" and "workforce/entry level housing". In general, the Board was agreeable to the

recommended changes to the policies and procedures and felt it was important to receive input from the local governments and economic development groups regarding the proposed changes.

4. Public Comments. Vice-Chair Gustafson opened the meeting up to anyone from the public that wished to provide input on the proposed changes to the grant funding program. The following comments were made:

Barbara VanClake – City of Omro: would like the ability for communities to roll over (bank) funds for a future project. This would allow smaller communities to build up enough funds to finance a larger type project and have a bigger impact.

George Dearborn – Fox Crossing: felt that adding housing programs/studies is a good addition to the eligible policies for the grant program.

Ellen Skerke – Town of Neenah: stated that removing the language requiring professional staffing is a good change. Also stated that the addition to allowing a community or group of communities to make a joint application is a good addition to the policies.

Brian Noe – Town of Omro: supported the comments from Ellen Skerke – felt these were good changes.

No other comments from the public were offered. Vice-Chair Gustafson closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

C. Other discussion and next steps: Some additional discussion occurred. Jerry Bougie said he would inventory the suggested changes made by the public and Board members and offered that he would accept any additional input and suggestions before the next meeting. The suggested changes will be brought to the next meeting for additional review and discussion and possible Board action on the revised policies and procedures.

D. Adjourn. Motion was made by Morris Cox to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Lucas Reinke. Motion passed 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.

Submitted by,

Jerry Bougie, Recording Secretary