

Winnebago County Industrial Development Board

Minutes for the March 20, 2025 meeting

**David Albrecht Administrative Building, Room 119
112 Otter Ave., Oshkosh, WI**

Board Members Present: Frank Frassetto, Jon Doemel, Morris Cox, Sean Fitzpatrick, Lucas Reinke, Amber Hoppa, Andrew Dane, Logan Fuller

Board Members Excused: Mary Anne Mueller, Nate Gustafson, Tom Egan

Others Present: Bob Schmeichel (virtual), Ellen Skerke (virtual), Kelly Wisnefske, Andrea Aurigue, Tricia Rathermel, Brian Noe, Samantha Jefferson, George Dearborn, Jerry Bougie, Julie Rosenau

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Chair Frank Frassetto. Introductions were held.

B. Public Comments

The following public comments were made:

- Tricia Rathermel, President & CEO of Greater Oshkosh EDC commented that GO-EDC would like a letter of support from the County IDB regarding for future funding commitments for the next 5 years which would allow GO-EDC to formally recognize Winnebago County as a partner and would potentially assist GO-EDC for future fund-raising efforts. She commented that the commitment letter would include a qualifier based on availability of IDB budgeting and funding from year to year.
- Jon Doemel, 1923 Doemel St., Oshkosh, commented that the County Board recently passed its first strategic plan which includes economic development, housing and quality of life goals.

No other comments were offered by the public. Chair Frassetto declared the public comment section closed.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. February 27, 2025 meeting:

Jon Doemel moved to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2025 meeting. Morris Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

D. Business Items

1. Board Review and action on 2025 local Per Capita Economic Development Funding Applications:

Jerry Bougie provided the Board with an overview on this year's funding allocation process. He indicated that all communities have either decided to use their funding shares for 2025 or have allocated their shares to a recipient community or economic development organization. He further indicated that for 2025 the County Board increased its funding pool for this program to \$200,000.00, up from \$170,000.00 in 2024.

Chair Frassetto instructed the presenters that they have a maximum of 10 minutes each to make their presentations on their applications for funding. He proceeded with indicating that the Town of Neenah will present first due to their time constraints.

Town of Neenah: Bob Schmeichel reported on the Town's application for \$4272.00 in funding for 2025. He indicated the Town proposes to use the funds to help offset some of the cost for their Comprehensive plan and the economic development portion of that plan. He then summarized the status of the Town's 2024 allocation of funds which was for the Town's 30-acre parcel for the establishment of a solar farm. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel moved to approve the Town of Neenah's \$4272.00 in funding for 2025. Morris Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Menasha: Andrew Dane reported on the City's application for \$17,667.00 in funding for 2025. He indicated the City proposes to use the funds for marketing efforts to promote economic development, funding for administrative activities/positions relative to economic development, and a portion for a housing study. He also summarized the use of the 2024 funds which were used for city marketing and retention efforts, studies related to economic development and leveraging additional funding grants for economic development. Discussion pursued. Logan Fuller moved to approve the City of Menasha's application for \$17,667.00 in funding for 2025. Jon Doemel seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Neenah: Samantha Jefferson reported on the City's application for \$32,194.00 in funding for 2025. She indicated the City proposes to use the funds for marketing efforts to promote economic development, studies related to economic development, funding of administrative activities related to economic development,

membership dues in Economic Development organizations. She also summarized the use of the City's 2024 funds which were used for the same types of economic development activities as 2025. Discussion pursued. The Board noted that the Plan Submittal Form wasn't filled out by the City and should be done next year by all funding recipients to ensure the applications are complete. Morris Cox moved to approve the City of Neenah's application for \$32,194.00 in funding for 2025. Lucas Reinke seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Omro: Logan Fuller reported on behalf of the City of Omro's application for \$4226.00 in funding for 2025. He indicated the City proposes to use the funds to help offset the cost of supporting the marketing of the City's industrial park. He also indicated that in 2024 the funds were used to help offset the cost of the Economic Development Director position for the city. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel moved to approve the City of Omro's application for \$4226 in funding for 2025. Logan Fuller seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation (GO-EDC): Tricia Rathermel reported on GO-EDC's application for \$107,293.00 in funding for 2025. This includes allocations by the City of Oshkosh, Village of Winneconne and Towns of Algoma, Black Wolf, Rushford (partial), Nepeuskun, Utica, Vinland, Winchester, Winneconne, Nekimi, Wolf River, and Poygan. She indicated GO-EDC proposes to use the funding for marketing efforts to promote economic development, funding administrative activities and positions, existing business development and attraction, entrepreneurs and startups and workforce development. She also reported that 2024 funding supported existing business growth, workforce maintenance and growth, support and financial assistance to entrepreneurial businesses, and enhanced targeted industry and community development activities. Discussion pursued. Lucas Reinke moved to approve GO-EDC's application for \$107,293.00 in funding for 2025. Morris Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce: Sean Fitzgerald reported on the Oshkosh Chamber's application for \$2836.00 in funding for 2025. This includes the allocation from the Town of Oshkosh. He indicated the Chamber proposes to use the funds to assist in their engagement with existing businesses and development of business prospects. He also reported that 2024 funds were used to support and assist entrepreneurs and existing business owners. Discussion pursued. Morris Cox moved to approve the Oshkosh Chamber's application for \$2836.00 in funding

for 2025. Logan Fuller seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1 with Sean Fitzgerald voting present.

Page 4 (IDB Minutes 3/20/25)

Town of Clayton: Kelly Wisnefske reported on the Town of Clayton's application for \$5,275.00 in funding for 2025. She indicated the Town intends to use the funds to offset administrative costs for economic development. The funding in 2024 was for the same purpose. Discussion pursued. Morris Cox moved to approve the Town of Clayton's application for \$5,275.00 in funding for 2025. Lucas Reinke seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Town of Omro: Brian Noe reported on the Town of Omro's application for \$3,751.00 in funding for 2025. This includes a partial allocation from the Town of Rushford. He indicated the Town proposes to use the funds for marketing efforts to promote economic development, studies directly related to economic development and funding to offset administrative activities related to economic development. Use of 2024 funds included conduction a survey of landowners along Highway 21 on the east end of the town and began identifying desirable land uses for future development. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel moved to approve the Town of Omro's application for \$3,751.00 in funding for 2025. Logan Fuller seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Village of Fox Crossing: George Dearborn reported on the Village's application for \$22,486.00 in funding for 2025. He indicated the Village intends to use the funding for marketing and promotion efforts, see money for economic development financing programs, studies directly related to economic development, funding of administrative activities / positions and membership dues in economic development organizations. He also reported the Village utilized their 2024 funding for business retention and expansion efforts, and administrative funding for economic development purposes. Discussion pursued. Morris Cox moved to approve the Village of Fox Crossing's application for \$22,486.00 in funding for 2025. Lucas Reinke seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

E. Next Meeting Date.

Chair Frassetto indicated that the next meeting will be set up at an appropriate time when the Housing Initiative issue is ready to be addressed again, and the IDB members will be polled on various optional meeting dates regarding their availability

F. Adjourn

Jon Doemel moved to adjourn the meeting. Logan Fuller seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0. Meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm.

Submitted by,

Jerry Bougie, Recording Secretary