

Economic Development Meeting
6-28-2016 at the Berg in Shullsburg, Wisconsin

~~APPROVED~~
7/26/16

Present: Dwayne Larson, Steve Spensley, Kriss Marion, Carol Korn, Bob Boyle, David Hammer,
Mary Knellwolf, and Luis Lopex.

Guests Present: Cory Ritterbusch, Gloria Swenson, Emitt Riley, and Jeff Doyle.

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carol Korn at 6:48PM after we had dinner.
- 2) Guests and new board members was welcomed by Carol Korn. The guests and new board members introduced themselves and told something about themselves and happening in Shullsburg.
- 3) Reviewed the agenda and previous minutes moved by Bob Boyle and 2nd by Kriss Marion to approve- Carried.
- 4) Financial Status: We have a balance of \$130,642.40 in the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF).
- 5) Current Projects:
 - A. Luis shows us that contributions to EDC has totaled \$74,050.00 so far this year which is 83% of \$89,240.00 which was expected. Luis is requesting to all government entities in county to have a LDC presentation at their monthly meetings to keep them informed of Economic Activity throughout county.
 - B. Belle's Argyle Grocery Store has hired 16 part time employees so far.
 - C. The New Daycare project in Belmont is still processing.
 - D. County Tourism: It is described as the economic activity generated by travelers who pass through or visiting area. The tourists provide job benefits such as agriculture, food production and retail. Tourism can provide social benefits and environment benefits to the community. Luis showed us what we may promote at the County level.
 - E. We were shown the need and benefit of a county tourism specialist. It was moved by Bob Boyle and 2nd by Dave Hammer to create a tourism specialist at a pay range of \$15 to \$18 an hour for 24 hours per week based on experience. Motion Carried. This will be presented to the Human Resource Committee for consideration.
 - F. A New Hardware store in Shullsburg, Wisconsin is now open (Hardware Hank).
 - G. There is new business expansion projection under consideration in Shullsburg, Wisconsin. A \$4.1 million investment and would provide 8 additional employees plus retention of other 30 jobs.
 - H. SK Plastic Molding, Inc. has purchased the Merkle Korff building in Darlington, Wisconsin and they are in process of remodeling and hiring employees. They are hiring about 16 people and hopefully will expend as business requires.

I. Broadband: Made request for \$172,168.00 Grant and is partnering with S.W. Regional. Planning in partnership with Comelec Internet Services, LLC. Luis gave up a breakdown of funding sources which totaled \$860,840.00.

J. Central 52 (Argyle, Wisconsin) is planning a July 14, 2016 opening and is going to offer free Wi-Fi, evening classes, etc. They are currently under remodeling.

- 6) Luis showed us a community profile of Dodgeville and Area to show us as a suggestion for county profiles for our cities and villages.
- 7) Moved by Bob Boyle and 2nd by David Hammer to adjourn. Carried.
- 8) Next Meeting Tuesday, July 26th at 5PM. Maybe at Gratiot or South Wayne.

Minutes by Dwayne Larson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dwayne Larson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.