ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, President Menk called the meeting of the Brainerd Economic Development Authority to order at 8:01 a.m.

Present were Commissioners Ed Menk, Wayne Erickson, Lucy Nesheim and Kelly Bevans. Chris Hastings arrived at 8:06 A.M.

Also present were City Administrator Vogt, Finance Director Goble, Mainstreet Coordinator Amber Haapajoki-Hahn, Sheila Haverkamp representing BLAEDC and Council Member Cumberland and City Planner Ostgarden.

#2 Approval/Amendment of Agenda – Approved.

The Chair asked if there were any changes requested for the agenda; as there were none, the agenda was approved as presented.

#3 Approval of Minutes – January 31, 2011 – Approved.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND ERICKSON, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

#4 Approval of Financial Report – Approved.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND ERICKSON, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED.

#5 Range Printing Revolving Loan – Recommend Acceptance of the Modified Wage and Hiring Rates as Requested by Range Printing and to Continue with the Original Amortization Schedule through June 2012 – Approved.

The Chair recognized Ms. Sheila Haverkamp of BLAEDC, who discussed the request received from Range Printing for a downward amendment to the "wage and job goals" provision in their Business Subsidy Agreement based on hardship because of the current economic climate. Discussion regarding the proposal was held.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND NESHEIM, DULY CARRIED, TO RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MODIFIED WAGE AND JOB GOALS AS REQUESTED BY RANGE PRINTING AND TO CONTINUE WITH THE ORIGINAL AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE THROUGH JUNE 2012.

#6 Main Street Program Coordinator – Update.

The Chair recognized Main Street Coordinator Amber Haapajoki-Hahn, who discussed the attached Project Summary Reports for January through April 2011 for the Brainerd Main Street Program as well as the Program's Market Position. She introduced Brian Sypes who will be working as an intern for the program.

Commissioner Bevans suggested the expansion of the Downtown district to the Washington Street Corridor in order to help interested businesses succeed.

Terms of the loans and grants being utilized and available were discussed.

#6 Brainerd Lakes Area Economic Development Corporation – Update.

Ms. Haverkamp discussed BLAEDC's Annual Report, Annual Meeting and their new "E Newsletter." She stated that BLAEDC will be hosting a Manufacturers' Event with DEED Commissioner Mark Phillips as keynote speaker on Thursday, June 9, 2011 that will address the State of Minnesota's economic vision.

She discussed recent happenings with Wausau, Crow Wing Recycling, Magnum Machining, and WW Thompson Concrete.

#7 Staff Reports.

City Administrator Vogt discussed the Neighborhood Beautification project currently taking place, stating that the hope was to clean up yards but many items are obviously coming from homes. He addressed the appraisal on the land the City owns north of Shipman Auto which the Council will discuss in closed session at the end of the Council meeting on May 16, 2011. He stated that the Crow Wing Recycling CUP request has been withdrawn.

#8 Commissioners' Comments/Questions.

Commissioner Nesheim requested a section in the Mainstreet report related to the residential areas in the Downtown area.

President Menk stated that a meeting of the Washington Street area was held with 5 businesses in attendance. He stated that great discussion was held and stated that next time the EDA will be invited.

#9 Adjourn.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:41 A.M.

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Kim Ellingson, Secretary