

Cedar County Economic Development Commission
June 14, 2016 – 5:30 PM
Cedar County Extension Office
Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Jon Bell, Dawn Smith, Greg Wagner, Charlene Myers, Leanne Boots,
Roger Laughlin

Staff Present: Rod Ness, Lisa Decker

Guests: Sue Hall

Chair Greg Wagner called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Roll call was taken.

Consent Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval

- Leanne Boots made a motion, seconded by Jon Bell to approve the agenda, minutes, and financial statements. Due to the absence of the Treasurer, the bills will be approved next month after he has reviewed them. All ayes.

Unfinished/Old Business

- The insurance policy with Heartland Risk Pool is renewed for another year. CCEDCO received a premium credit.
- Thirty people have signed up for the Social Media seminar on Saturday, June 18th.

New Business

- The Social Media Seminar is this coming Saturday, June 18th, from 10:30 – noon at the Extension Office meeting room.

Executive Director's Report

- The Director has looked into what it would take to get CCEDCO a non-profit status. He has contacted a few lawyers and the most confident cost he can come up with is \$2,750, and taking about three months. Dawn Smith suggested he try to get a few more quotes.
- A Clerk's lunch was held Wednesday, June 1st at the Tipton Family Restaurant. Jenna Soyer of ECIA spoke about Brownfield and Grayfield development projects and assistance. IowaWORK force's Kate Pine and Scott Mather presented information on their services and answered questions from the clerks. Charlene Myers added she is very happy with the new city website the director created for them and customers are using the on-line bill pay system.
- He attended the Lowden city council meeting and the clerk brought up he developed on-line billing for Bennett and she would like to see Lowden have the capability also. The council voted it would be an asset and would like him to have him set it up for Lowden.
- Clarence and Mechanicsville development groups are reaching out trying to get people involved. He has been attending their meetings.
- He reached out to Scott Mathers from Iowa Workforce and asked if he would be willing to give a presentation on the Labor shed Report. He hopes to have it scheduled for August.
- The office has been assisting in updating the Cedar County Barn Quilt tour brochure.
- growCEDAR.org has a lot of traffic and CCEDCO advertised on Facebook for the seminar training.
- IowaWORKS is sponsoring a "Hiring Ex-Offenders" seminar on June 30th at the Anamosa State Prison. There is no cost to attend.
- The Office Manager added the FY15 audit report is completed and there are copies if anybody would like to review it.

City Reports

- **West Branch** – The golf course has new owners. Their plan is to also develop housing on part of the land. The Ready Mix Plant purchased property outside of town and they and the city are going to switch locations. The town will get four acres and will contact a developer to assess the location. There is a lot of potential for the area. They hired a person to promote West Branch and come up with strategy to target people who live close, day trip people, and the people who travel on Interstate. The city would like to see West Branch have some advertising along the interstate. The mayor would like to see a restaurant and hotel come to town. The Mexican restaurant has closed. West Branch is trying to have an event every other month. They are again having Music on the Green on Thursday nights and Hoover Days will be in August.
- **Bennett** – The Fire Dept. is putting up a new building. The new librarian is doing a great job. She made changes to make the library more inviting and it is now open on Sundays. The summer reading program has four times the attendance it had last year.
- **Tipton** - They are getting ready for the 4th of July Celebration.
- **Cedar County Supervisor (Dawn)** – The Recorder's office will be moving on Friday to start the remodeling of offices. The Stanwood drainage project is ongoing. A new GIS person was hired. She toured a mental health center in Colorado.
- **Cedar County Supervisor (Jon)** - Road rock is almost all down. They are finding out some bridges in the county are in worse condition than they thought. The bridge between Bennett and Lowden is currently being repaired, but is on the five year plan to be replaced.
- **Stanwood** – The old section of the school is down. The gym, garage area and offices will still exist. The new park shelter is making progress. Some streets were sealed. This month's Mayor meeting will be in Oxford Junction. The Highway 38 bids were delayed. The deadline is now July 19.

Announcements

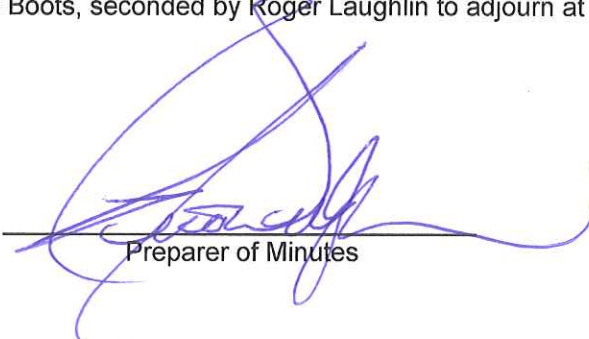
- Chair Greg Wagner asked if anybody would have a problem having meetings every other month. The by-laws state we have meetings at least that often. Nobody objected. The next meeting will be August 9th. He will have a conflict with the October meeting, as he has another meeting that night, but will try to get a Stanwood councilperson to be at the meeting. He also asked that Goals be put on the agenda for August. He stated after having Brian Perry help them set up goals for CCEDCO, some time could be spent at the next meeting getting updates on the progress of reaching them. The Executive Director will be taking vacation June 28 – July 1.

Adjourn

- With no further business, a motion was made by Leanne Boots, seconded by Roger Laughlin to adjourn at 6:22 PM.



Board Chair
VICE - CHAIR



Preparer of Minutes