

Florence County Economic Development COMMITTEE MEETING

MISSION: retain, expand and recruit a diversified business population which provides broad and varied job opportunities while safeguarding the area's natural surroundings.

Date: March 6th, 2018

Time: Tuesday, 4:00 pm – 2nd Floor Conference Room – Courthouse

1. Call to order and roll call

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair F. Modschiedler. Members J. Bomberg, L. Dzekute, G. Steber and F. Modschiedler were present. L. Neuens was excused. Director W. Gehlhoff was also present.

2. Approve agenda

The agenda was approved on a motion by G. Steber, L. Dzekute 2nd, motion carried.

3. Approve minutes

The minutes were approved on a motion by, L. Dzekute, G. Steber 2nd, motion carried.

4. TID funding for assisted living market study update for USDA – RD:

The director gave an update on the current funding sources and process for the Birchwood Meadows Assisted Living project. To satisfy the USDA – RD (United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development) loan guarantee underwriting, the market study must be updated by Revere Healthcare. The original study was done in 2014 so is outdated according to USDA – RD criteria. On a motion by J. Bomberg, G. Steber 2nd, this \$3,869 cost will be paid via TID funds as allowed. Motion carried. J. Bomberg asked for an updated balance at the next meeting on the monies advanced to the TID.

5. Letter to Senator Tom Tiffany in support of SB 769:

On a motion by G. Steber, L. Dzekute 2nd, the draft letter will be sent to Senator Tiffany asking him to support this bill that would provide new funding to WEDC for programs/grants to fund economic development in rural counties. Motion carried.

6. Economic Development Project Update: Project work since the February meeting was reviewed.

7. Board Member Concerns: Committee discussed sending another letter to all towns before their April annual meetings. There are still 3 towns that do not donate to economic development. Director sent a letter thanking the 5 towns that donate and another letter to the 3 that do not contribute, asking for a donation. Included in each letter was a summary of projects and impact. Director attended the Town of Aurora meeting where they agreed to donate \$300. No word from Homestead and Long Lake.

8. Adjournment: On a motion by G. Steber, L. Dzekute 2nd, meeting adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Gehlhoff – FCED Director