

Winnebago County Industrial Development Board

March 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes

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

***Meeting held in person and on Teams**

Board Members Present: Rob Keller (Board Chair), George Dearborn (Board Vice Chair), Amber Hoppa (Board Secretary/Treasurer), Tom Eagan, Jon Doemel, Morris Cox, Mary Anne Mueller, Andy Buck

Board Members Excused: Bryan Stafford, Nate Gustafson, Elizabeth Hartman

Others Present: Tricia Rathermel, Art Rathjen, Kathy Sam Schroeder, Brad Schmidt, Colan Trembl, Bob Schmeichel, Brian Noe, Stephanie Kromm, Tori Kinderman, Jerry Bougie, Reporter from Oshkosh Herald, Julie Rosenau, Paul Kaiser (virtual).

Meeting called to order at 1pm by Board Chair Rob Keller.

1. Approval of Minutes from December 13, 2023 meeting.

A motion was made by Morris Cox to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by George Dearborn. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Public Comments on agenda items. Chair Keller offered the public to make comments on any agenda items. He noted no comments were made by the public.

Board Member Mary Anne Mueller arrived at the meeting.

3. Board review and action on 2024 local economic development funding applications.

Board Chair Rob Keller summarized the Mission Statement and Policies for the Winnebago County IDB's Per Capita Funding Program. He indicated that the Board should keep these policies in mind as they review the funding applications at today's meeting. Chair Keller requested Jerry Bougie to report on the funding allocations for 2024.

Mr. Bougie indicated the per capita funding allocations were set at just under \$1.00 per capita for 2024, an increase over 2023 due to the ending of funding to the ITBEC and Oshkosh CVB. The overall budgeted amount for 2024 for the program totaled \$170,000. The following funding applications were presented and discussed by the Board:

Town of Neenah. The Town is requesting \$3,648 in funding. Bob Schmeichel gave a report on the Town's application to do a feasibility study for a solar farm. Jon Doemel moved and Andy Buck seconded to place the item on the floor for discussion. Motion passed 8-0. Discussion pursued. Tom Egan made a motion to approve the \$3,648 in funding for the Town of Neenah. Motion seconded by Morris Cox. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Menasha. The City of Menasha is requesting \$15,085 in funding. Sam Schroeder gave a report on Menasha's application for funding. Jon Doemel moved and Mary Anne Mueller seconded to place the item on the floor for discussion. Motion passed 8-0. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel made a motion to approve the \$15,085 in funding for the City of Menasha. Mary Anne Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Neenah. The City of Neenah is requesting \$27,408 in funding. Brad Schmidt gave a report on Neenah's application for funding. Jon Doemel moved and Mary Anne Mueller seconded to place the item on the floor for discussion. Jon Doemel questioned the use of the funds for housing purposes as it currently is an ineligible use based on the policies for this program. Brad Schmidt clarified the City would use the funds for a proposed economic development study the City will be conducting, and not a housing study. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel made a motion to approve the \$27,408 in funding for the City of Neenah for the City's Economic Development Study. Morris Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

City of Omro. The City of Omro is requesting \$3,611 in funding. Stephanie Kromm gave a report on Omro's application for funding. Discussion pursued. Mary Anne Mueller made a motion to approve the \$3,611 in funding for the City of Omro. Andy Buck seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation (GO-EDC). GO-EDC is requesting \$88,382 in funding, with contributions from the City of Oshkosh and the Towns of Algoma, Black Wolf, Nekimi, Nepeuskun, Poygan, Rushford, Utica, Vinland, Winchester and Winneconne. Tricia Rathermel gave a report on GO-EDC's application. Discussion pursued. Andy Buck inquired with GO-EDC on the status of the Aviation Business park and Tricia provided an overview on that. Andy Buck made a motion to approve the \$88,382 in funding for GO-EDC. Motion seconded by Amber Hoppa. The Motion passed 7-0-1. Jon Doemel abstained.

Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is requesting \$2,419 in funding from the contribution from the Town of Oshkosh. Colan Trembl gave a report on the Chamber's application. Any Buck moved and George Dearborn seconded to place the item on the floor for discussion. Motion passed 8-0. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel made a motion to approve the \$2,419 in funding for the Oshkosh Chamber. Motion seconded by Andy Buck. Motion passed 8-0.

Town of Clayton. Jerry Bougie noted there was no one present to speak on behalf of the Town of Clayton's application for funding. George Dearborn moved and Morris Cox seconded to table the application for a future IDB meeting. Motion passed 8-0.

Town of Omro. The Town is requesting \$2,362 in funding. Brian Noe gave a report on the Town's application. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel made a motion to approve the \$2,362 in funding for the Town of Omro. Motion seconded by George Dearborn. Motion passed 8-0.

Village of Fox Crossing. The Village is requesting \$19,008 in funding. George Dearborn gave a report on Fox Crossing's application. Andy Buck moved and Morris Cox seconded to place the item on the floor for discussion. Discussion pursued. Jon Doemel made a motion to approve the \$19,008 in funding for the Village of Fox Crossing. Motion seconded by Andy Buck. Motion passed 7-0-1 with George Dearborn abstaining.

Village of Winneconne. Jerry Bougie noted that there was no one present to speak on behalf of the Village's application for funding. Tom Egan moved and Any Buck seconded to table the application for a future IDB meeting. Motion passed 8-0.

4. Next Meeting. Jerry Bougie said the Board will be discussing the Per Capita Economic Development funding program policies at its next meeting to see if improvements can be made to the program. The Board will be contacted regarding time and date options for the next meeting.

5. Adjournment. Morris Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Andy Buck. Motion passed 8-0. Meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.

Submitted by,

Jerry Bougie, Recording Secretary