

**Winnebago County Industrial Development Board**

**Minutes for March 22, 2021 Meeting**

**County Administrative Building, 112 Otter Avenue, Oshkosh WI**

**\*Meeting held virtually via Zoom and Phone in\***

Board Members Present: Rob Keller, George Dearborn, Mark Harris, Shiloh Ramos, Mary Anne Mueller, Linda Kutchenriter, Joel Rasmussen, Mary Krueger, Bob Warnke, Morris Cox, Elizabeth Hartman

Others Present: Jerry Bougie, Art Bahr, Tricia Rathermel, Art Rathjen, Mike Norton

Meeting called to order by Chair Rob Keller at 1:00 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2021 Meeting. Mary Ann Mueller made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, motion seconded by Shiloh Ramos. Motion approved 11-0.
2. Status Report on County Road Y CDBG Close Project. Art Bahr, Mid-State Associates, updated the Board on the status of the project. He indicated he is working closely with Ray Palonen, County Highway Commissioner, on bidding out the \$807,000 project for construction this summer and in addition he is almost finished with the Environmental Review portion of the project. He said everything is on course for completion of the road construction project later this year.
3. Update on Covid-19 Rapid Recovery Loan Program – GO-EDC. Art Rathjen indicated that there have not been any new loans issues since the last report in February.
4. Discussion and potential Board action on entering into an agreement with GO-EDC for administrative services for the County COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Loan Program. Jerry Bougie provided the Board with an overview on the intent and purpose of the agreement, which is to reimburse GO-EDC for administrative and management costs that they incur when managing the loan fund pursuant to the proposed scope of work. Art Rathjen indicated that when the loan program began in March of 2020 they had to act fast and simply wanted to get the program off the ground to assist small businesses because of the Covid shutdown and were not concerned with the related administrative costs of the loan program. He indicated the proposed agreement would only allow GO-EDC to recover administrative and managerial costs since January 1, 2021 and not any costs they incurred in 2020. He said the agreement provides for annual reimbursable costs not to exceed \$5,000 annually. He also said they are not seeking any labor costs to

be reimbursed as part of this agreement. Elizabeth Hartman spoke in favor of the agreement with GO-EDC because they stepped-up in a time of need to fill a gap for small businesses in the County. Mark Harris also spoke in favor of the agreement for similar reasons and that typically loan programs usually come with administrative fees in normal times.

George Dearborn made a motion to approve entering into an agreement with GO-EDC for reimbursement of administrative and managerial services for the County Covid-19 Rapid Recovery Loan Program not to exceed \$5,000 annually retroactive to January 1, 2021. Motion seconded by Joel Rasmussen. Motion approved 11-0.

5. Update on GO-EDC's USDA grant application to establish a county rural small business loan program. Tricia Rathermel, GO-EDC, reported that the grant application is due March 31 and she will be submitting the application before the deadline. She indicated they should receive word from USDA on approval of the grant by August. She also indicated that affected Towns in the County are very encouraged by the grant application and the proposed loan program. It was also mentioned that if the program is implemented there will need to be another administrative agreement with GO-EDC to manage the loan program similar to the Rapid Recovery loan program.
6. Adjournment. Shiloh Ramos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Mary Krueger. Motion passed 11-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.

Submitted by,

Jerry L Bougie, Recording Secretary