

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE OF LINCOLN COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, December 3, 2020, 3:30 pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Bailey, Kemp, Smith, Abbott, Cowen, Fitzsimmons, Holbrook, Roy, and Ryslingle
Staff: Schuytema and Brewer

1. **Agenda Review:** Bailey amended the agenda to start with #4 - grants. Schuytema asked for time at the end for the County's potential funding.
2. **Review and discussion of Community and Economic Development Grant Applications:** Abbott said there was 100% board response to the grant scoring sheet. Discussion ensued about the viability of the bottom two applications and reallocation of recommended amounts. The consensus was to eliminate the last application and proportionally share the remaining amounts with the bottom three. The board will add a side note that the eliminated application was not supported because it didn't tie together well and criteria wasn't met.

The board discussed the new application form and how it didn't translate well back to the criteria as it used to. A maximum word count or project summary was recommended. Attendance in the grant classes of year's past could have been used as criteria. It was suggested for the future that a big award of \$50K be offered which would bring good publicity and leave \$75K to divide up. Having both big and small awards was discussed. Having a different application for more robust economic impact projects for the county was recommended. Schuytema could suggest entities to apply and work with them.

3. **Review and Approval of November 5, 2020 Minutes:** Abbott moved and Roy seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Bailey didn't attend so abstained. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Smith reported the error at the last meeting was corrected. Expenses were primarily for staffing. Funding had not yet come in. There's a need to find revenue sources real quick.
5. **County's Potential Funding:** Schuytema said the listening sessions showed county wide priorities. It was clear there is an absolute need for an economic development organization in the county. One of the County's priorities is that additional money comes in from other sources. He suggested a three-year initial goal that outlines projects. He shared a draft contract with the executive committee, got good feedback from Greg Wolf and would talk to Doug Hunt the next day. Schuytema plans to ask Hunt to be EDA's spokesperson and help give EDA the scaffolding to bring in funds from other sources. The grants discussion offers an opportunity. EDA will present the grant recommendations to the County on December 21st

Discussion ensued about the fact that money is in the County budget but not allocated, disappointment that funds haven't come through for our over 25-year-old organization, if Hunt is not our liaison find out who is, meet with commissioners one on one, EDA is at a critical juncture,

there is a need for the kind of work EDA does, being clear about what the outcomes will be will help everyone, EDA needs a real advocate.

6. **Strategic Alignment and Governance Committee:** The ad hoc committee has been discussing the committee. Abbott said the committee should be memorialized and continuing. Ryslinge asked what needed to be known about board members to build on, so that the process works.

Motion: Abbott moved and Smith seconded a motion to nominate Ryslinge, Kemp, Holbrook and Schuytema to the Strategic Alignment and Governance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Schuytema will find a time to come together for some next steps.

Bailey announced there would not be a meeting in January. He said he looked forward to Schuytema's weekly updates and added that he should communicate with members next.

Bailey adjourned the meeting at 4:54 pm.