EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
February 25, 2019
100 Park Street South
Mora, MN 55051
7:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:
Bob Bollenbeck – Kanabec Co. Public Interest
Carla Dunkley – Tribal Representative
Kathi Ellis – Kanabec Co. Commissioner
Linda Evans – Mille Lacs Co. Public Interest
Tim Franklin – Pine Co. Municipalities
Gordon Gullixson – Kanabec Co. Municipalities
Richard Hansen – Isanti Co. Townships
Robert Hoeft – Mille Lacs Co. Townships
Jeanette Kester – Pine Co. Public Interest
John Mikrot, Jr. – Pine Co. Commissioner
Scott Moe – Northern School Boards
Ben Montzka – Chisago Co. Commissioner
Dave Patenaude – Kanabec Co. Townships
Genny Reynolds – Mille Lacs Co. Commissioner
Kevin Stenson – Chisago Co. Municipalities
Terry Turnquist – Isanti Co. Commissioner

Commission Members Absent:
Loren Davis – Isanti Co. Public Interest
Diane Larkin – Chisago Co. Townships
Jim Swenson – City of North Branch
Glen Williamson – Pine Co. Townships

Staff Present:
Bob Voss – Executive Director
Karen Onan, Community Development
Trish Rydlund – Office Manager
Penny Simonsen – Transportation
Jordan Zeller – Economic Development

1. WELCOME: Chairman Montzka called the regular meeting of the East Central Regional Development Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL: Hansen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Hoeft seconded – motion carried.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL: Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2018 ECRDC board meeting. Reynolds seconded – motion carried.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Executive Director Voss provided a written report and highlighted several items including:
   a. CHISAGO COUNTY PUBLIC INTEREST REPRESENTATIVE: One application was received by Tom Lawlor of Chisago City for the Public Interest Representative vacancy. A recommendation was made to the Commission to appoint Tom Lawlor as the Chisago County Public Interest Representative. Motioned by Stenson to approve Tom Lawlor as recommended. Moe seconded – motion carried.
   b. MILLE LACS COUNTY PUBLIC INTEREST REPRESENTATIVE: One application was received by incumbent Linda Evans. A recommendation was made to the Commission to reappoint Linda Evans as the Mille Lacs County Public Interest Representative. Motioned by Reynolds to approve Linda Evans as recommended. Hoeft seconded – motion carried.
   c. CHISAGO COUNTY PERSONNEL & BUDGET (P&B) REPRESENTATIVE: Motioned by Hoeft to appoint Kevin Stenson as the Chisago County representative to the P&B. Evans seconded – motion carried.
   d. AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER: Motioned by Ellis to sign the audit agreement letter for CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to audit the financial statements for FY2019. The estimated cost will be $10,100. This is the third year of the three-year audit agreement. Seconded by Stenson – motion carried.
e. **AGENDA AMENDMENT:** Hansen moved to amend the agenda to include a resolution authorizing submission of grant application to MnDOT for conducting the implementation phase for the Regional Transportation Coordinating Council. Kester seconded – motion carried.

f. **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL RESOLUTION:** Motioned by Hoefert authorizing submission of grant application to MnDOT for conducting the implementation phase for the Regional Transportation Coordinating Council. Seconded by Moe – motion carried.

6. **TREASURERS REPORT:** The Board reviewed the December 2018 through January 2019 Treasurer’s report as presented by Commissioner Ellis. Gullixson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report to include the checks written #10184 through #10231 along with ACH payments from December 1, 2018 through January 30, 2019. Hansen seconded – motion carried. General Journals were reviewed and approved for the period December 1, 2018 through January 30, 2019.

7. **TRANSPORTATION:** Simonsen reported on the following items:
   a. **LAKE MILLE LACS SCENIC BYWAYS (LMSB) CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT STUDY:** The ECRDC has been asked to take the lead in completing a corridor management plan for the LMSB beginning July 1, 2019 with approximately $75,000 available for the project. This will develop a community-based Corridor Management Plan for the LMSB. This will outline goals, strategies, and responsibilities for preserving and promoting the newly designated 68-mile scenic byway. Motioned by Evans to approve moving forward with the corridor management plan. Seconded by Bollenbeck – motion carried.
   b. **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) APPLICATIONS:** Applications were received from Pine City in District 1, along with Taylors Falls, and Lindstrom in the MnDOT Metro District. The next TAC meeting is scheduled from April 18th.

8. **EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL (ECRTCC):** Olson reported on recent meetings that were held.
   a. **TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC MEETINGS:** Three of the four required public meetings have been held sparking conversation. From the meetings the following objectives have been addressed:
      - Office of Mobility Management
      - Viable Volunteer Driver Program
      - Vehicle Sharing
      - Intermodal Transportation Center Hubs
      - Need for more Bus Drivers
   b. **PHASE 2 – IMPLEMENTATION OF ECRTCC:** Staff will be working on the Phase 2 – Implementation application over the next few weeks. Application for this project is due April 12, 2019.

9. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Zeller brought forth the following recommendations:
   a. **COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) BOARD VACANCIES:** There are two vacancies on the CEDS Advisory Board. Motioned by Hoefert to appoint Genny Reynolds, Mille Lacs County Private Sector, to the CEDS Advisory Board. Dunkley seconded – motion carried. The other vacancy is for a Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. At this time there was no applications for this position. Advertising, phone calls, and social media will be done to fill this position.
   b. **INVENTORS & ENTREPRENEURS CLUB:** The ECRDC is partnered with East Central Energy & GPS 45:93 to hold an event on October 31st focused on supporting local entrepreneurs and inventors encouraging them to start and grow their business here in the region.

10. **TOPICS OF REGIONAL INTEREST:** The City of Lindstrom has been approved for $3.3 million in increment financing for the development for proposed 92 apartments, marina and restaurant complex, on Hwy. 8 at the east edge of South Lindstrom Lake.
11. **ADJOURNMENT**: Chairman Montzka announced the next meeting will be on April 22, 2019 at the ECRDC offices. Evans moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the ECRDC. Hansen seconded – motion carried.

Robert L. Voss, Executive Director

Ben Montzka, Chairman