



# NORMAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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## **Norman County EDA**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**June 22, 2021 • 6:30 p.m.**

**Twin Valley Liquor Store, Twin Valley, MN**

Members present: Lee Ann Hall, John Hintz, Greg Slotten, John Kolness & Jeremy Melting.

Members absent: Karie Kirschbaum

Guests: Jenny Eggen

- Vice-Chairman Hintz called the meeting to order.
- Kolness moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Melting. Motion carried.
- Greg Slotten gave the Treasurers Report. We have a balance of \$8,093.45 in our 2021 budget. We have \$9,164.02 in our Revolving Loan Program fund. Akselson moved to accept the report, seconded by Kolness. Motion carried.
- Jenny Eggen from High Hopes Education Intervention Center updated the board on their business plan. High Hopes is a non-profit, Orton-Gillingham based, Dyslexia and reading disability center located in Ada. They currently have around 50 students. Their goal is to open a private K-1-2 school. They have visited a private school in South Carolina two times to gather information. They are interested in possibly renting the Hendrum School building that will soon be owned by the City of Hendrum. Their next step is to have a feasibility study done. The cost would run up to \$15,000. They are looking for ways to help fund it. A possible grant for \$5,000 from the Dekko Foundation will be checked out. She talked about a possible raffle and was looking for feedback from our board. The idea for the raffle to sell tickets for \$100 tickets with about half of the money to be given as a grand prize. There were many ideas discussed. Slotten offered to check into some ideas, etc. and get back to her regarding the raffle.
- **Old Business**
- The Initiative & Crescent & EDA Sprint Grant was discussed and tabled due to no new information at this time.
- Web & Social Media Update – Jess Spaeth’s firm is hired to update our website monthly at a rate of \$35 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours per month. All of the board members were asked to get information to her for the website as soon as it becomes available so she can post it on our website. We also need to update our board of director’s page and new board members were asked to get information to her so it can be posted.



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- The Shop Local yard signs have been received. Hall brought them at the meeting. It was decided that Melting will distribute in Halstad, Kolness in Hendrum, Askelson in Twin Valley and Hintz in Ada.
- KRJB Scavenger Hunt promotion prize from the EDA will be give certificates from all of the restaurants and bars with food in the county. Hintz volunteered to get gift certificates for the promotion. There are about 20, which would be \$25 for each entity.
- Barrack Family Farm continues has become very active in our communities, sponsoring many events. They are looking at the Spec Building that the Ada Area Promotions Committee has for sale in Ada. They are in need of employees and have been advertising for help.
- **New Business**
- The board reviewed a loan request from Nicholas Prothero at Freedom Fuel Inc. for \$15,000. A motion was made by Hintz and seconded by Askelson to approve the loan request with the interest rate of 3%. Motion carried.
- Slotten gave his notice to resign/retire from the board. He would like to be done as soon as possible. The board thanked Greg Slotten for his service on the board. Ideas were discussed on a replacement board member. Hintz will check with Kim Johnson to see if she will consider the position.
- **Upcoming Events**
- Ada – The 125<sup>th</sup> Norman County Fair is scheduled for June 23-26. The American Legion Riders will be in Ada on July 31 from 11 am – 2:00 pm. National Night Out August 3, Fun in the Flatlands and BBQ held September 11 at the Norman County Fairgrounds Barrack Family Farms is looking for employees. The Main Street Bar is putting in an outdoor patio.
- Twin Valley – Town and Country Days is scheduled as well as the All School Reunion on July 15-18. Zion Lutheran has its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that same weekend. They hope to have the Splash Park open soon. A new restaurant will be open soon. A paint ball facility called Northern MN Extreme Sports is open and is accessible on the road to Twin Forks. There is a new RV Park located by the Twin Valley Liquor Store. Camping is \$25 per day or \$100 per week.
- Hendrum – REACH is expanding in Hendrum to the Simplot building with counseling services to be offered. They are working on acquiring the building from Simplot.
- Halstad - All School Reunion scheduled for July 23-26. Fire Frost has acquired land and is planning a park on a 37 acre parcel off Hwy 19. They continue to work on prospects for the school building. Halstad Lutheran Church has a meal every 3<sup>rd</sup>



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Wednesday. It is a fundraiser opportunity that and they are offering their facility to community organizations to sponsor a meal.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Perley Bar.

Motion was made by Melting and seconded by Kolness to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Hall  
Secretary