

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

West Square Building  
Baraboo, Wisconsin

Monday, February 25, 2013

Members present: Marty Krueger, Donna Stehling, Joe Fish, Dennis Polivka, Brian Peper  
Members absent: Gerry Lehman, Dave Riek  
Others present: Kathy Schauf, Tim Stieve, Laurie Hasenbalg, Russell Hasenbalg, Mike Clark, Helen Clark

The meeting was called to order and certification of Open Meeting compliance was given at 6:30 p.m. **The agenda was approved on a motion by Peper, second by Polivka.**

**The meeting minutes from the prior meeting(s) were approved on a motion by Polivka, second by Peper. Motion carried.**

### **Communications**

Letter from Jewell Associates regarding the Big Hollow project and thanks to the County for participating in the project.

The Skills Gap and Unemployment in Wisconsin: Separating Fact From Fiction by Marc V. Levine, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Economic Development Executive Summary. Chair Krueger indicated that the rest of the report was available upon request.

### **Update on Rails and Trails**

Chair Krueger provided a history of the initiative to continue supporting the County resolution supporting state acquisition of the Madison to Reedsburg line. The newest development was an update of a meeting with legislators for both Sauk and Dane County in early February to elicit their support for the initiative. Representatives Clark and Brooks assisted in arranging the meeting. State agencies (DOT and the Governor's office) also sent representatives. Participants from surrounding communities, Gene Dalhoff, and Alan Anderson presented information on the importance of both rails and trails to the assembled group. The Chair followed up with a meeting with Secretary Gottlieb and the lobbyist for Seneca Foods. The Governor's Budget includes \$60 million for the freight rail grant program, which is deemed to be adequate for the purchase and ongoing maintenance needs state-wide. This is a necessary step to ensure continued rail service and developing a recreational trail.

### **Discussion and consideration of potential uses /re-uses of the closed landfill property**

The committee discussed key features to be incorporated into the final report to the Property and Insurance Committee. Items included: Ownership, access, programming, adjoining neighbors, the town, and continuing responsibility.

### **Discussion and consideration of strategic issues for Mid-Term Assessment**

1. Broadband and mobility access.
2. Regional trail development within the county.
3. Continued involvement of Highway 12 east of Ski Hi Road and the section in the village of Lake Delton.
4. Final reuse / master plan of Badger Army Ammunition Plant.

### **Discussion of projects and priorities**

Postponed to next meeting.

**Motion by Fish, second by Polivka, to adjourn the meeting to March 25, 2013. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Stehling  
Economic Development Committee Secretary