

Minutes (Draft)  
INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (IEDC)  
Tuesday, January 2, 2023 - 7:00 a.m.

Monticello Community Center, North Mississippi Room  
Participants who chose to attend remotely joined via Microsoft Teams.

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Present: Chairperson Sarah Kortmansky, Chairperson Luke Dahlheimer, Liz Calpas, Joni Pawelk, Darek Vetsch, Andrew Tapper, Randy Skarphol, Eric Olson

Present Virtually – Steve Johnson, Joni Pawelk, Ryan Schmitz

Absent: Wayne Elam, Kathleen Massmann, Eric Olson, Kevin Steffensmeier,

Liaisons: Jim Thares, Marcy Anderson, Jolene Foss

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Liz Calpas called the meeting to order at 7:07 a.m.

2. Approve Minutes:

LUKE DAHLHEIMER MOVED TO APPROVE DECEMBER 6, 2022, MINUTES. MOTION SECONDED BY RANDY SKARPHOL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Consideration of Adding Items to the Agenda

4. Consideration of Electing 2023 IEDC Officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary)

OPEN POSITION CHAIRPERSON - DAREK VETSCH NOMINATED VICE CHAIRPERSON SARAH KORTMANSKY AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE IEDC. LUKE DAHLHEIMER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN POSITION VICE CHAIRPERSON – VICE CHAIR SARAH KORTMANSKY NOMINATED LUKE DAHLHEIMER AS VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE IEDC. DAREK VETSCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SECRETARY – JIM THARES, CITY OF MONTICELLO STAFF LIAISON WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS SECRETARY. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

5. Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership Overview –Darek Vetsch, Wright County Commissioner, serves as a Representative to the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership (CMRP) and presented it purpose and projects.

The CMRP is formerly known as the Hwy 25 Coalition. The name was changed to address broader planning and economic development projects throughout the region. The unofficial slogan of the CMRP is “A Transportation Solution”. Using a governmental study, they address

concerns and solutions.

The planning initiative led to the effort to create the Framework 2030 plan. Framework 2030 helps identify areas of collaboration in economic growth, planning & zoning, and transportation infrastructure. The current interest is directed towards a transportation infrastructure effort at this point.

The Mississippi River crossing phase process steps begin with creating a Purpose and Needs document. After it is created, CMRP applies for a Planning Environment Linkage (PEL) study. PEL process will help provide almost all of what is needed before going to Environmental impacts and help determine where a bridge can go. The funds for the PEL process will be split between Wright and Sherburne Counties. The CMRP will contribute \$400,000.

The best-case scenario is the PEL process will take close to 2 years pushing the point to go to the Federal government for funding at least 3 years out. CMRP consensus for a river crossing location is west of Fenning towards St Cloud 94 corridor. This is not a permanent decision and may change as the planning process continues.

Within the next year the CMRP will no longer be governmental but informational and lobbying. Membership representatives should not be affected except the change in elected officials to a broader array of members, including transportation and industrial firm representation.

6. Consideration of Adopting Proposed 2023 IEDC Action Statements-Goals  
Mr. Thares presented an edited version of the 2023 IEDC Action Statement – Goals as discussed by the IEDC on December 6, 2022, meeting.  
Mr. Thares reviewed the 2022 Table Topic lists. Suggestions were made for the 2023 list.

DAREK VETSCH MOVED TO ADOPT THE 2023 INDUSTRIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ACTION STATEMENT AS PRESENTED. LIZ CALPAS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Consideration of Ryan Schmitz membership on the IEDC  
Mr. Thares introduced candidate Ryan Schmitz, Cargill Plant Engineer.

DAREK VETSCH MOVED TO ACCEPT RYAN SCHMITZ AS A MEMBER OF THE IEDC. LIZ CALPAS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Members welcomed Mr. Schmitz.

Mr. Thares will present Mr. Schmitz membership to the City Council on January 9, 2023, for approval.

1. Reports (Verbal Reports):
  - a. Economic Development
    - Prospects List
      - Project Stallion (Washburn) – The planned expansion project is moving forward at a slower pace than initially anticipated.
      - Project Shepard (Wiha) – Scheduled to begin construction in 2023.

- Project Sing – This is a German company specializing in precision tooling. If Monticello is awarded, it would be a large project of a 400,000 square feet of new facility with a total of 500 new jobs being created by the company for its operations. Both Minnesota and Monticello are being considered.
  - Project Wafer is looking for 120 acres which might be difficult to satisfy in City of Monticello.
  - Project T - This is a local expansion of 20,000+ square feet. Monticello staff presented information regarding the potential incentives that may be available to entice them to build in the city.
  - Project Update
    - The EDA Closed on Headwaters Twin Home property last month.
    - Block 52 construction is on schedule.
- b. Planning Commission - Mr. Thares provided an overview of the upcoming Planning Commission meeting agenda, highlighting an expansion of Kwik Trip on highway 25, and a PUD for Specialty Eating Establishment for Scooters Coffee. Hayden Stensgard, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, highlighted the recodification of the Monticello Zoning Ordinance.
- c. City Council update was not available.
- d. Jolene Foss, Executive Director of the Wright County Economic Development Partnership (WCEDP) presented updates including Technical Workforce.
- Mobility program sponsored by Wright County Technical Center and the State of Minnesota to create Scholarships.
  - CEO Program – Marketing promotion videos were produced as well as a 30 second ad that could be run on You-Tube or as a television ad.
  - The Annual WCEDP is on January 20, 2023
- e. Chamber of Commerce - Marcy Anderson, Monticello Chamber of Commerce Director, presented highlights of projects and events.
- Good Morning Monticello events are scheduled through 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
  - Art in the Park and Taste of Monticello registration has been posted.
  - [Riverfest Committee](#) is continuing its planning.
8. Consideration of outreach efforts to potential new members – Mr. Thares encouraged members to promote membership and lobby candidates for potential IEDC membership.
9. Next Meeting Reminder – Date: February 7, 2023
10. Adjournment at 8:00 a.m.  
DAREK VETSCH MOVED TO ADJOURN. MOTION SECONDED BY LIZ CALPAS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recorder: Vicki Leerhoff \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved: February 7, 2023

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
James Thares, Economic Development Manager

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