

**WALSH COUNTY JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Meeting Held at Park River City Office and via Zoom
December 7th, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Julie Gemmill, Diana Hahn, Terri Gorder, Matt Beneda, Jeane Flaten, Greg Young, Kyle Halvorson and Jeff Moen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Mary Dvorak, Ernie Barta, Wanda Lee, and Lucas Kelley.

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Dusek, Jhony Jenne, Mike Hanson, and Stacie Sevigny.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

CALL TO ORDER: Gemmill called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES: Minutes from the November 2nd, 2022 meeting were presented for approval. Flaten made a motion to approve the minutes. Beneda seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

BILLS: Expenses incurred since the last meeting were presented for approval. Flaten made a motion to approve the bills. Young seconded the motion, and it unanimously carried.

REQUESTS FOR FUNDS

LIFETIME DENTAL: Dr. Paul Dusek was present for the request for a flex PACE buydown loan to buy in as a partner in the Lifetime Dental Practice. Currently, Bobbie Ekman is full owner. This will become a 50-50 partnership with hopes to expand in the future, which is more dependent on workforce. Goal is to be open 5 days a week at both locations but hard with the shortage of dental hygienists. They do have sign on bonuses and student loan repayments to help with workforce attraction. Motioned by Flaten to approve the request contingent on financing. Seconded by Young, motion carries.

ROGER BROOKS MARKETING EFFORTS: Request for ½ mill to contribute to the Roger Brooks plan. The ask for ½ a mill will be requested from all three counties involved, Walsh, Nelson, and Pembina. Motioned by Hahn to approve the ½ mill request. Seconded by Beneda. Motion carries.

DESTINED MULTI-SERVICES LLC: Jhony Jenne presented the request for funds for Destined Multi-Services flex PACE interest buydown loan. The loan is to help expand the business by purchasing a van with a carpet cleaning system. This will steam clean the carpets instead of shampooing. They have worked in a few different businesses around the area including waxing floors at the Home of Economy in Grand Forks and American Crystal Sugar in Drayton. They offer both residential and commercial cleaning and floor waxing. Motioned by Beneda to approve the request. Seconded by Moen, motion carries.

RENDEZVOUS REGION TOURISM COUNCIL: Request was made for the annual contribution to the Rendezvous Region Tourism Council (RRTC). The request is late this

year due to the Roger Brooks planning. The request is for \$10,000 and this is the last year this request will happen because there is a new group forming that will request these funds. The RRTC is just going to focus on businesses moving forward. Motioned by Halverson to approve the \$10,000 request. Seconded by Gorder. Roll call vote: two no (Flaten and Moen), rest of board was yes. Motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

WALSH COUNTY JDA FOUNDATION UPDATE: The foundation has never been registered with the state. French is in the process of registering the foundation and also creating the board and bylaws that should be established.

WALSH COUNTY CAREER BUILDERS UPDATE: Have 25 people approved and enrolled in the program. Have the best launch in the state so far.

NEW BUSINESS

NVCTC UPDATE: Mike Hanson attended to give an update on North Valley Career and Technology Center (NVCTC) covers both Walsh and Pembina Counties. They have CDL instructors and 2 tractor/trailers to help train CDL drivers. They also do PRAIS testing and are a Pearson Vue testing site. They have over 200 students, many taking multiple classes. NVCTC also has over 140 partners which helps expose students to different career paths. They also have the job shadow program, student internship, and student co-op programs. NVCTC recently hired a work-based learning coordinator through the Red River Regional Council, Stacie Sevigny. NV would like to get state funding to fund this position. They received the capital projects grant of about \$9 million which allows for expansion into Cavalier as well as improvements in Grafton, Minot, and Park River.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: They are using two approaches for workforce development, workforce attraction & retention and student work-based learning. Hiring a marketing firm to design logo and other marketing materials. Plan to hire local staff to help with marketing. Also working with Grand Forks is Cooler and Find the Good Life campaigns. Working to create a funnel to get students back.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Hahn nominated Gemmill for chair, Flaten nominated Young for vice chair, Flaten nominated Halverson for secretary, and Flaten nominated Flaten for Treasurer. Motioned by Hahn to approve election slate, seconded by Halverson. Motion carries.

EXPIRED OFFICER TERMS: Expired terms are Beneda, Kelley, Flaten, and Dvorak. Beneda and Dvorak do not want to renew their terms. Kelley and Flaten would like to renew. Hahn motions to reappoint Kelley and Flaten to the board. Seconded by Young. Motion carries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Gorder made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Reported by,

Signed,

Angelle French
Director

Julie Gemmill
Chair