

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2021
WEBEX CONFERENCE CALL

4:30 PM

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL TO COMPLY WITH THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC AND WISH TO SPEAK PLEASE CALL THE DIAL IN NUMBER AND THE COMMITTEE CHAIR WILL ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME ON THE AGENDA.

IF YOU NEED TO EITHER MUTE OR UNMUTE YOURSELF DURING THE MEETING, PRESS *6.

MEETING PHONE NUMBER: 415-655-0001

MEETING NUMBER (ACCESS CODE): 182 771 2293

MEETING PASSWORD: 02032021

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Lee McMenamin	Chippewa County	District 4 (Chair)	Present	
Tom Thornton	Chippewa County	District 5 (Vice-Chair)	Absent	
Don Hauser	Chippewa County	District 6	Remote	4:35 PM
Annette Hunt	Chippewa County	District 13	Remote	
Dean Gullickson	Chippewa County	District 7	Remote	

Due to lack of a quorum, Chair Gullickson acted as an ex-officio member of the committee until Supervisor Hauser appeared.

Others Present: Randy Scholz, Doug Clary, Lori Zwiefelhofer, Charlie Walker, Todd Pauls, Deb Chilson, Craig Johnson, Maureen Carlson, Ryan Hartzell, and Tom Waldusky. Recorder: Lisa Merrell.

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Gullickson, District 7
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
AYES:	McMenamin, Hunt, Gullickson
ABSENT:	Thornton, Hauser

1. Approve the agenda

Economic Development Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Webex Conference Call

February 3, 2021
4:30 PM

2. Approve the Minutes

Economic Development Committee - Regular Meeting - Oct 29, 2020 4:30 PM

Economic Development Committee - Special Meeting - Jan 6, 2021 4:30 PM

3. Schedule next meeting date - May 5, 2021 at 4:30 PM

5. REPORTS

1. Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation Report - Charlie Walker

Walker noted that on February 25th, from 1-2 pm they will be partnering with other economic development organizations in the Valley, giving an economic overview snapshot. The Department of Revenue asked them to get some of their elected officials there to hear the economic outlook and what they are projecting for 2021.

Walker stated they are also working on promoting a virtual trade mission to Canada.

Supervisor Hauser entered the meeting at 4:35 PM.

Walker noted that the Chippewa Valley Technical College President has announced his retirement, and they want to make sure economic development is not lost in the search for a new President. They have Board members providing input and representing Chippewa County on the search committee.

The HPE project has been wrapped up, and WEDC approved their opportunity zone and their incentives for that project. This is a great win for Chippewa County.

Requests for Information are down considerably, but they did have a couple since the last meeting. They anticipate a six acre purchase in the near future.

The CCEDC Annual Meeting has been moved from May to the first week in August.

Walker noted that they haven't received any news on the EDA grant for the CVIC project yet. McMenamin asked, with the change in the percentage of the match, what is the likelihood of their initial vision of the project versus the match being 50%. Waldusky stated based on some of the feedback they are getting from the Chicago office, they are leaning more toward the 50% match. Johnson stated they do seem to be leaning that way. For the other projects they are aware of, that is what they are awarding.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Res. 09-21: Resolution to Approve a Citizen Participation Plan to Qualify for Community Development Grant Funding

Scholz introduced Craig Johnson from Regional Planning. Regional Planning approached the County for these resolutions, and Scholz stated he would bring them to the committee for their consideration, whether to forward to the County Board.

Johnson stated the application they have been working on with Chippewa County is for the CDBG Coronavirus Fund. They may remember they did talk a little about this back in the fall. There was an

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intent to apply phase, and now they are past that stage and actually submitting the application, working with Chippewa County to do it. As part of the process, there are some resolutions required. One is to update the citizen participation plan, and the other is to submit the application.

Chippewa County would be submitting a CDBG application to the Wisconsin Department of Administration to fund a microenterprise grant program. CDBG grants start with the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and then come to the state through the Department of Administration. Communities can apply for the funds, and this program application is responding to the economic fallout from the pandemic by providing relief in the way of grants in the West Central Wisconsin region to help retain business operations in the region. Overall, there will be 100 grants provided of \$5,000 each, as well as an additional \$74,750 for running the program. Chippewa County is applying for the seven county region of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire (except the City of Eau Claire), Polk and St. Croix Counties. Regional Planning helped put the application together and will help administer it, if it is awarded.

If approved they will be submitting the application at the end of February and if it is awarded, the program should be up and running by May.

The first resolution is to update the citizen participation plan, which is a required element of all CDBG applications. The other resolution is to submit the application. If approved, they would move forward to the County Board next week.

Motion (Hauser/Hunt) to forward the resolution to the County Board. Carried by Roll Call, with all Supervisors present voting Aye.

RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 2/9/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
AYES:	McMenamin, Hauser, Hunt	
ABSENT:	Thornton	

2. Res. 08-21: Resolution to Authorize the Submission of a Community Development Block Grant Application to Develop a Microenterprise Grant Program

Motion (Hunt/Hauser) to forward the resolution to the County Board. Carried by Roll Call. All Supervisors present voting Aye.

RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 2/9/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
SECONDER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
AYES:	McMenamin, Hauser, Hunt	
ABSENT:	Thornton	
EXCUSED:	Gullickson	

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

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Meeting adjourned at 4:57 PM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
AYES:	McMenamin, Hauser, Hunt
ABSENT:	Thornton
EXCUSED:	Gullickson

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 29, 2020
WEBEX CONFERENCE CALL

4:30 PM

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL TO COMPLY WITH THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC AND WISH TO SPEAK, PLEASE CALL THE DIAL IN NUMBER AND THE COMMITTEE CHAIR WILL ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME ON THE AGENDA.

MEETING PHONE NUMBER: 1-415-655-0001

MEETING NUMBER (ACCESS CODE): 126 320 5449

MEETING PASSWORD: 86392863

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Lee McMenamin	Chippewa County	District 4 (Chair)	Present	
Tom Thornton	Chippewa County	District 5 (Vice-Chair)	Remote	
Don Hauser	Chippewa County	District 6	Present	
Annette Hunt	Chippewa County	District 13	Absent	

Others Present in person: Todd Pauls, Randy Scholz, Lori Zwiefelhofer, and Charlie Walker. Recorder: Lisa Merrell.

Present (Remote): Jackie Boos, Charity Zich, Craig Johnson (Regional Planning), Ray French (CVIC), Maureen Carlson (CCEDC), and Tom Waldusky (CVIC).

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion (Hauser/Thornton) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Passed without negative vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6
SECONDER:	Tom Thornton, District 5 (Vice-Chair)
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser
ABSENT:	Hunt

1. Approve the agenda
2. Approve the Minutes

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Oct 29, 2020 4:30 PM (Consent Agenda)

Economic Development Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Webex Conference Call

October 29, 2020
4:30 PM

Economic Development Committee - Regular Meeting - Aug 5, 2020 4:30 PM

Economic Development Committee - Special Meeting - Sep 18, 2020 9:00 AM

3. Schedule next meeting date - February 3, 2021

5. REPORTS

1. Tourism Council Report - Jackie Boos

Jackie Boos provided an update on current Tourism Council activities. Boos expressed that it is a crazy time for promoting their communities in a safe manner, and keeping businesses that rely on tourism safe. On a positive note, recreation is up 34% for summer, and also for fall. The number of requests for snowmobile information, fat tire opportunities and northern resorts have been increasing. They have seen an increase of 20% for their travel packets.

They received around \$83,000 in grant funds through the CARES grant, which is helping them get back into the market and start their digital campaigns in time for winter. They are moving forward with merging their Chippewa County Attractions Guide and the City of Chippewa Falls and Lake Hallie travel guide, because there was a lot of redundant information. They can now allocate those dollars to things like social media and digital placement, mapping support, and things of that sort.

They are also moving forward with merging of Go Chippewa County, which will be their new brand for all tourism in Chippewa County. It will reflect all communities they represent.

2. Airport Report - Charity Zich

Charity Zich gave an update on the airport. The pandemic has had a significant impact on airline travel. They are down 58% through the month of September compared to 2019. They have seen small increases every month, over the prior month, since May. Charter flights just started back up this week.

For the general aviation side of the airport, private aircraft operations, the hangars are all full with a waiting list. Generally the hangar utilization is pretty cyclical with the economy, but the reverse has kind of happened this time. Airport operations, which are takeoffs and landings, are down about 15%.

The Airport was awarded a CARES grant of \$6.8 million, with \$4.3 million going to reimburse operating expenses for the airport over the next four years, and the remaining \$2.5 million they are looking at using for developing a corporate hangar project which will be about 20-30,000 square feet.

In addition to that project, they have several capital projects going on, including other small hangars, snow removal equipment, and an airfield lighting replacement project.

3. Economic Development Corporation Report - Charlie Walker

Charlie Walker provided an update on the Economic Development Corporation activities.

Walker asked Maureen Carlson to give an update on their advertising. This is the year they were going to redo all their branding videos, and as Chair of Momentum West and a member of the CCEDC Board, she has been working on this project. Carlson stated they are working on a series of four videos that encompass the 10 county region from St. Croix County, north to Barron County, south to Pepin and everything in between. The four different focuses are liability, manufacturing and industry, certified sites,

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and an overall video that talks about why site selectors should pick the Momentum West region to work with their clients to explore. They will send the videos to site consultants all around the US, and they will also be shared with companies in the region to use as recruiting tools. They are finishing up the interviews right now and will be editing and her thought is the videos will be out in February/March 2021 time frame. Chippewa County will receive all the videos to use in their videos in the future.

Walker noted that Paul Salm was recently recognized nationwide for his leadership in Economic Development, and their collaboration of the Youth Build Program in Chippewa County using Rutledge Foundation, CCEDC and Workforce Resource received the Talent Pipeline Award of the year.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Res. 40-20: Resolution to Authorize the Expenditure of Funds for the Construction of a New Chippewa Valley Innovation Center Building

Scholz asked Craig Johnson from Regional Planning to talk about the EDA grant and what they are looking to do.

Johnson is with West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and they are working with Chippewa County, Chippewa Valley Innovation Center and the City of Eau Claire on this project, and specifically to get an application submitted to the EDA to fund the project. Basically what the project is about is first, an expansion northward of the Gateway Industrial Park into Chippewa County on a plot of land the City of Eau Claire owns, and looking to build initial infrastructure into the Park and the accompanying utilities. A very critical part of the project and one that involves this body is the construction of a new CVIC that will be the first major entity that would locate on to this new expansion. CVIC is looking to vacate their current premises and locate to the Gateway Industrial Park and it would allow them to expand what they are doing. It seemed like a great opportunity to bring what the City was doing with the Gateway expansion and what CVIC was doing in terms of building that new facility in the Gateway Park. What the grant is for is to fund the project through EDA. Some may be familiar with EDA, but they basically provide funding for a range of economic development things, infrastructure projects or planning projects. This would fall into an infrastructure project. In response to the COVID pandemic, they received a \$1.5 billion grant, which is roughly \$20 million in competitive grants for Wisconsin. Normally it is a 50/50 grant, but this is an 80/20 grant, with 80% grant and 20% match. Typically to qualify you have to be considered a stressed community, but in this case, since all communities have been affected by the pandemic, they are all eligible for these funds. It also makes the grant pretty competitive, plus there is a lot of need out there because of the pandemic. The funds have to be obligated in the next couple years, but EDA has already been telling them they have been getting a lot of applications already, so those funds may be obligated very soon. The goal they have for these partners is to get the application in as soon as they can to have the best chance of funding, in the next couple weeks. It is not a guarantee that it will be funded, but the goal is to get a viable project together and get an application in as soon as they can to put their best foot forward in terms of being a strong application.

Ray French is the current President of the CVIC Board. They started this a number of months ago, but there have been a number of changes and updates. They started with a market study that they worked with Regional Planning on that was published last year. They have been dealing with a number of deficiencies in the building so they have a number of expenses coming up if they stay in their current facility. Through the market study they talked about opportunities to enhance their incubation process. They have been full for the last few years now, and those clients are graduating and moving out and they are starting to backfill that space. There continues to be interest and they continue to bring in new tenants.

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There is a concept of the new building they are looking at in the agenda packet. It is about the same size of the old building, but it is efficiently laid out with room to grow on the lot. They are hoping to maintain about the same operating budget. They are anticipating with the sale of the current building, CVIC would be able to contribute to the project.

Walker provided a history of the CVIC. Walker stated with this project, the idea is to "spot" the CVIC some money until they can get the building built and then sell their old building. What they would like to do is graduate the old tenants and start the new building with new tenants. Chippewa County would contribute 10%, the City of Eau Claire would contribute 10%, and then CVIC would pay back 5% to each entity after they sell their building.

Scholz stated if they look at the final estimated development budget, the EDA grant would be \$3.8 million for the 80% grant, and then the 20% match is \$965,000. The City of Eau Claire would pay for their infrastructure and Chippewa County would pay for half of the 20% match for the CVIC building. They would match up front 10% and the City of Eau Claire would pay 10%. Once the facility is sold, CVIC would pay us back \$174,117 in a two year interest free loan, so at the end of the day the County would pay \$308,623.

Scholz pointed out when the County did the feasibility study, this project does two of the three things the feasibility study suggested, location and partners.

The Land Development Fund has TIF money coming in from the Lake Wissota Business Park, and the current balance is \$1,070,000. By the end of 2020 there will be about \$1.4 million in it and in 2026 they would have about \$2.8 million in it. He would suggest they take the amount of those funds to put toward this project.

Motion (Thornton/Hauser) to approve the resolution being forwarded to the County Board. Passed without negative vote.

RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 11/10/2020 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Tom Thornton, District 5 (Vice-Chair)	
SECONDER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser	
ABSENT:	Hunt	

2. Chippewa County Participation in a Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Program (CDBG-CV) - Randy Scholz

Scholz stated this is a grant program that has to run through the County to qualify for the grant. It has to be 5 or fewer employees including the owner, located in West Central Wisconsin Counties excluding the City of Eau Claire, and the owner has a low or moderate income.

Scholz met with Todd Pauls, Patty Schimmel, and Lori Zwiefelhofer to look at the full picture and everybody is on board and feels they can carry it out. The bulk of the work will be on Regional Planning, but they just wanted to make sure it was doable.

Scholz stated he would be looking for a motion to move forward with an intent to apply. Then he would bring it to this committee and the Board to move forward with the actual loan process.

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Motion (Hauser/McMenamin) to participate in an intent to apply for the CDBG-CV program. Passed without negative vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6
SECONDER:	Lee McMenamin, District 4 (Chair)
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser
ABSENT:	Hunt

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 PM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6
SECONDER:	Lee McMenamin, District 4 (Chair)
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser
ABSENT:	Hunt

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Oct 29, 2020 4:30 PM (Consent Agenda)

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2021
WEBEX CONFERENCE CALL
4:30 PM

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL TO COMPLY WITH THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC AND WISH TO SPEAK, PLEASE CALL THE DIAL IN NUMBER AND THE COMMITTEE CHAIR WILL ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME ON THE AGENDA.

IF YOU NEED TO EITHER MUTE OR UNMUTE YOURSELF DURING THE MEETING PRESS *6

MEETING PHONE NUMBER: 1-415-655-0001

MEETING NUMBER (ACCESS CODE): 126 304 9494

MEETING PASSWORD: 79289297

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Lee McMenamin	Chippewa County	District 4 (Chair)	Remote	
Tom Thornton	Chippewa County	District 5 (Vice-Chair)	Present	
Don Hauser	Chippewa County	District 6	Remote	
Annette Hunt	Chippewa County	District 13	Remote	

Others Present: Randy Scholz, Charlie Walker, Jackie Boos, Jim Dunning, Scott Rogers, Ann Schell, Dean Gullickson, Todd Pauls, Rebecca Reinhardt, Deb Chilson, Lori Zwiefelhofer, Buck Steele, Tom Waldusky, and Ryan Hartzell. Recorder: Lisa Merrell.

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
SECONDER:	Lee McMenamin, District 4 (Chair)
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser, Hunt

1. Approve the agenda
2. Schedule next meeting date - February 3, 2021

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jan 6, 2021 4:30 PM (Consent Agenda)

Economic Development Committee

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January 6, 2021
4:30 PM

5. REPORTS

1. Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation Report - Charlie Walker
Charlie Walker provided an update from the Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation. They are working with a company that will be putting an offer in for land in the Lake Wissota Business Park.

Business retention visits have been changed to virtual. Most of the comments they hear in their business retention visits are that due to COVID 19 most service businesses are still struggling. It is a combination of finding staff, and businesses not being in a position to take on any more loans.

They have finished up the project with the EDA for the CVIC project, and there hasn't been any announcement on the awarding of the grant, but it is anticipated it will now be a 50% match instead of a 20% match.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Resolution to Support the Creation of the Chippewa-St. Croix Rail Commission - Jim Dunning/Scott Rogers
Jim Dunning, a County Board Supervisor in Eau Claire County, and a board member on the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition, and Scott Rogers, Governmental Affairs Director for the Chamber of Commerce, and Vice Chair of the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition appeared to discuss this item. Rogers gave a presentation on what they are proposing, and asked Ann Schell from Regional Planning to provide history on the Gateway Corridor Commission that has been considered in the past. Schell stated the effort went on about 10 years ago, so this idea isn't something completely new. The Gateway Corridor Commission started looking at commuter options between the Twin Cities and Eau Claire. It was comprised of Barron, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, and St. Croix Counties, as well as the City of Eau Claire, Altoona, Menomonie and Chippewa Falls. Now they have a new endeavor going on and they are at the point where they need to make sure they have the communication structure they had previously, but for a different type of study.

Rogers noted there was a typo in the materials that went out. The intention is if at least 8 entities wanted to join the commission, they would get started. So far Eau Claire County and St. Croix County have already approved the resolution, and the City of Eau Claire will review it next week.

Scholz asked who their passenger would be, would it be someone commuting back and forth from Eau Claire or Chippewa Falls to the Twin Cities, who will be their bread and butter for revenue? Rogers stated they have had discussions with WisDOT about having a more contemporary ridership study. The study that was done for the Gateway Corridor was primarily on commuters. This would be convenient for people that, for instance, work at home but have to go into the office in Minnesota once in a while. They have three state universities on the route, and lines like this where there are universities generate a lot of traffic. There would also be tourists and leisure riders using it. Scholz stated there is some talk about a shuttle service from Chippewa Falls to Eau Claire. Are they envisioning that would be run by a private agency, or are they looking for the county or city to provide that? Rogers stated there are different models around the country. In California, they do this extensively and the operator or train service contracts with a private organization. You would buy a ticket from Chippewa Falls to St. Paul and the ticket would include the shuttle ride.

Gullickson pointed out that WCA had a resolution on this, and it was voted to indefinitely suspend it. His understanding is rail between Milwaukee and Madison was the guinea pig for that project. Rogers stated that project was significantly more expensive, approximately \$900 million. One of the things they have going for them is the better condition of the track and the interest in the railroad; that project has been

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on the back burner because of the difficulty in implementing it because they don't have the higher quality tracks and the ease of creating the corridor. Gullickson was nervous to be a guinea pig between Eau Claire and the Twin Cities. They have much more ridership coming out of Milwaukee to Madison than we have from the Twin Cities to Eau Claire. Rogers stated ridership studies that have been done on the Gateway Corridor did show enough commerce between those cities that they found it justified a project like this.

Hauser asked if there was a financial commitment to this at any point, either now or in the near future? Rogers stated the only financial commitment would be the time involved in participating. It doesn't mean there wouldn't be one in the future, but this resolution would just be to take it forward as a coordinating thing. Scholz stated for this resolution, it would be the cost of attending the meetings, so per diem and mileage for one County Board member.

Motion (Hauser/Hunt) to amend line 133 of the resolution from 10 to 8. Carried by Roll Call. All Supervisors present voting Aye.

Motion (Hunt/Hauser) to forward the resolution as amended to the County Board. Carried by Roll Call. All Supervisors presenting voting Aye except Supervisor McMenamin. Adopted by a 3 to 1 vote.

RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [3 TO 1]	Next: 1/12/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
SECONDER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
AYES:	Thornton, Hauser, Hunt	
NAYS:	McMenamin	

2. Resolution to Authorize Funds for Project to Promote Fishing and Hunting - Randy Scholz

Boos explained that they were approached in July about requesting additional funding and looking at opportunities that would really put our county in the limelight. For years, they have been doing well with the marketing they have been provided. This was an opportunity the Council thought would promote the entire County instead of certain towns or cities. What they are looking at is a full year marketing package. They met with Larry Smith Outdoors' team and had four conversations, so they could talk about the needs of the county. What they put together is a preliminary contract for a 52 week exposure, which is done through four events, which are episodes, which would look at spring, summer, fall and winter. They will go light in the summer because their hotels and motels and attractions usually do well in the summer.

Scholz stated the resolution spells it out, they are recommending taking the money from the Land Development Fund. The County Board did pass a resolution in November to take money from that fund to move forward with the CVIC grant, and they have discovered that the grants going through are being funded as a 50/50 match instead of 20/80. Regional Planning is seeing that, so they are redoing those numbers. If it is 50%, CVIC is looking at how much more they can contribute. There is \$1,070,785 in the fund at the end of 2020, so there is plenty of money for this project of \$30,000. The only other option is the contingency fund, but that requires a 2/3 vote of the County Board.

RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 1/12/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Lee McMenamin, District 4 (Chair)	
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser, Hunt	

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jan 6, 2021 4:30 PM (Consent Agenda)

Economic Development Committee

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4:30 PM

7. **COMMUNICATION**
8. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**
9. **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
AYES:	McMenamin, Thornton, Hauser, Hunt

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jan 6, 2021 4:30 PM (Consent Agenda)

**STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION**

Resolution No. 09 - 21

**RES. 09-21: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
TO QUALIFY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING**

1 Passage of this resolution will formally approve the attached Citizen Participation Plan.
2 The State of Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) and the U.S. Department of
3 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) require recipients of Community Development Block
4 Grant (CDBG) monies to have in place a Citizen Participation Plan. Chippewa County is in the
5 process of applying for grant funding to develop a Microenterprise Grant Program as part of the
6 federal COVID relief program. The program would provide \$5000.00 grant funding to local
7 businesses effected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

8

Resolution No. 09 - 21

**RES. 09-21: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN TO QUALIFY FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING**

WHEREAS, Chippewa County is in the process of applying for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to develop a Microenterprise Grant Program for Chippewa County to administer; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) require recipients of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies to have in place a Citizen Participation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen Participation Plan shall encourage citizen participation (especially by persons of low to moderate income), provide citizens reasonable and timely access to local meetings and information, provide for technical assistance, provide for public hearings, provide for complaint procedures, and accommodate non-English speaking residents; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County has prepared and publicly reviewed the attached Citizen Participation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the attached Citizen Participation Plan.

Forwarded to the County Board by the Economic Development Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to Chippewa County by passage of this resolution.

02/3/2021	Economic Development Committee	
RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 2/9/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
SECONDER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
AYES:	Lee McMenamin, Don Hauser, Annette Hunt	
ABSENT:	Tom Thornton	

Approved as to Form:



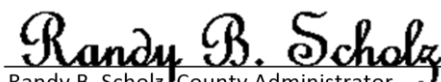
Todd A. Pauls, Corporation Counsel

1/26/2021



Lori Zwiefelhofer, Finance Director

1/26/2021



Randy B. Scholz, County Administrator

1/26/2021

Chippewa County

Citizen Participation Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

PURPOSE

In order for the CDBG Program to operate effectively, the entire population must be kept informed. The decision-making process must be open and consistent with State and Federal regulations. To accomplish this, the following plan will be followed:

PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

1. Chippewa County shall create a Citizen Participation Plan Committee of at least five persons, members of which shall be appointed by the Chief Elected Official and confirmed by the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors. This Committee shall be responsible for implementation of the Citizen Participation Plan, as well as offering guidance in preparation of the grant application.

Chippewa County shall oversee the preparation of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant application.

2. To insure responsiveness to the needs of its citizens, Chippewa County shall provide for and encourage citizen participation. Particular emphasis shall be given to participation by persons of low- to- moderate income (LMI).

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Chippewa County shall establish the above-noted committee and it will be composed of persons representative of the area's demographics. All committee members must be residents of the project or service area. This committee must include at least one LMI person.

The committee members should also include representatives from the local government, real estate, banking and labor communities whenever possible. This

committee shall assume responsibility for coordinating and overseeing all required elements of the Citizen Participation Plan.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

1. Official notice of hearings will be by public notice in the *Chippewa Herald* at least two full weeks prior to the hearing. In addition, the public notice shall be posted at the Chippewa County Courthouse. These notices will include time, place and date of meetings, as well as a brief agenda.
2. For projects concentrated in a specific area or neighborhood, in addition to the above notification, notices shall be posted at locations of public gathering within the target area or neighborhood.
3. All notifications of meetings and available assistance must be worded in such a way as to encourage LMI participation. In addition, all meeting announcements shall include where, and during what time, information and records relating to the proposed and actual use of funds may be found.

REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings shall be held to obtain citizen views and to enable them to respond to proposals at all stages of the CDBG Program, including the development of needs, the review of proposed activities and the review of program performance. Hearings shall be held after adequate notice, at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries and with accommodations for the handicapped, and, if needed, for non-English speaking persons.

1. The first hearing will receive citizens' views and provide an explanation of:
 - a. Community development needs, objectives, and strategies.
 - b. The CDBG program including goals, objectives, application process, amount of funds available, timetable, eligible activities, etc.
2. The second hearing will receive citizens' views and provide a review of the performance of the funded activities.
3. The first public hearing shall be held during the development of the application for funds. The second public hearing shall be held during the implementation of the

program. Chippewa County will attempt to have at least one of the public hearings in the service area (if applicable).

PROGRAM INFORMATION, FILES, and ASSISTANCE

1. Technical assistance will be provided to any citizen who requests information about program requirements. Assistance with the application process will be provided by a Chippewa County staff member, and such staff member will meet with citizens on request.
2. Chippewa County will maintain, at the Chippewa County Courthouse, a record of all citizen participation efforts including minutes of meetings, newspaper clippings, and copies of notices and brochures.
3. Citizens will be invited to make proposals regarding the application. If suitable proposals are submitted in writing, a written response will be provided within 15 days. Every effort will be made to respond to all proposals prior to the final action on the subject.
4. Citizens may petition or request in writing assistance or changes.

Chippewa County staff will respond to all such requests within 15 days after the Chippewa County Citizen Participation Committee has met to discuss the request.

COMPLAINTS

Chippewa County will handle citizen complaints about the program in a timely manner. By federal regulation the County will respond in writing to all written letters of complaint within 15 days after receipt of the complaint. The nature and disposition of verbal complaints will be reported in a complaint log. The first contact for complaints should be made to Chippewa County's administrative offices.

In addition to the above procedure, any citizen wishing to object may complain directly to the following address:

Attention: Executive Staff Assistant
 Wisconsin Department of Administration
 Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources, 9th Floor
 P.O. Box 7970
 Madison, WI 53707-7970

Written complaints should contain the following information and should be as specific as possible when describing:

- 1) The Program area being referenced: HOME, Community Development Block Grants for Housing (CDBG – Housing), Community Development Block Grants for Community Development (CDBG – Community Development), Community Development Block Grant Close Program (CDBG-CL), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), etc.;
- 2) The event resulting in the complaint;
- 3) The dates, details, and reason for the complaint; along with
- 4) The complainant's name, address, and telephone number.

NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING PERSONS

Chippewa County will regularly survey the area to identify non-English speaking persons and will make all special efforts to assure them equal opportunity in the citizen's participation process.



STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

Resolution No. 08 - 21

RES. 08-21: RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION TO DEVELOP A MICROENTERPRISE GRANT PROGRAM

1 Passage of this resolution will authorize Chippewa County, as the lead county of the
2 Housing Region, to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the
3 development of a Microenterprise Grant Program for Chippewa County to administer. If
4 approved, this economic development project would establish a Microenterprise Grant
5 Program to provide \$5,000 grants to small, economically disadvantaged businesses in West
6 Central Wisconsin (the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, excluding the City
7 of Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix). The Microenterprise Grant Program is designed to provide a
8 response to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing direct financial relief to businesses to assist in
9 retaining their operations in the region.

10 Chippewa County will act as the lead county on behalf of the counties in the region to
11 secure CDBG-CV funds for the project as a partnership already exists with the six other counties
12 from Chippewa County's administration of a regional CDBG housing program. In addition, the
13 parties are involved in a regional business loan fund program originally capitalized with CDBG
14 funds and now staffed by the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
15 (WCWRPC). Chippewa County will contract with WCWRPC to implement all aspects of the
16 Microenterprise Grant Program. There will be no cost to Chippewa County as all administrative
17 costs would be covered by the grant.

18

Resolution No. 08 - 21

**RES. 08-21: RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION TO DEVELOP A MICROENTERPRISE GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Chippewa County is interested in participating in the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) program through the Federal government; and

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR) for the development of a Microenterprise Grant Program for Chippewa County to administer; and

WHEREAS, after public meeting and due consideration, the Economic Development Committee recommends that an application be submitted to the State DOA for grant funding for the development of a Microenterprise Program; and

WHEREAS, this economic development project would establish a Microenterprise Grant Program to provide \$5,000 grants to small, economically disadvantaged businesses in West Central Wisconsin (counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, excluding the City of Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix); and

WHEREAS, the Microenterprise Grant Program is designed to provide a response to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing direct financial relief to businesses to assist in retaining their operations in the region; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County will act as the lead county on behalf of the region to secure CDBG-CV funds for the project as a partnership already exists with the six other counties from Chippewa County's administration of a regional CDBG housing program and participation in a regional business loan fund program originally capitalized with CDBG funds and now staffed by the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC); and

WHEREAS, to effectuate the application process, Chippewa County will contract with WCWRPC to implement all aspects of the Microenterprise Grant Program as it has the knowledge and systems in place to successfully administer the grant program; and

WHEREAS, if the application is approved, there would be no financial impact to Chippewa County as all administrative costs would be covered by the grant; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the County Board to approve the preparation and filing of an application for Chippewa County to receive funding from the CDBG-CV Program; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has reviewed the need for the proposed project and the

benefits to be gained therefrom;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board does hereby approve and authorize the preparation and filing of an application for CDBG-CV funding to establish a Microenterprise Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board Chair is authorized to sign all necessary documents on behalf of Chippewa County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Economic Development Committee is authorized to take all necessary steps to prepare and file the application for funding under this program in accordance with this resolution.

Recommended for Approval by the Economic Development Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to Chippewa County by passage of this resolution as any administrative costs would be covered by the grant funding.

02/3/2021	Economic Development Committee	
RESULT:	FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 2/9/2021 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13	
SECONDER:	Don Hauser, District 6	
AYES:	Lee McMenamin, Don Hauser, Annette Hunt	
ABSENT:	Tom Thornton	
EXCUSED:	Dean Gullickson	

Approved as to Form:

Todd A. Pauls

Todd A. Pauls, Corporation Counsel

1/26/2021

Lori Zwiefelhofer

Lori Zwiefelhofer, Finance Director

1/26/2021

Randy B. Scholz

Randy B. Scholz, County Administrator

1/26/2021

Chippewa County

Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV)

Microenterprise Grant Program

Project Summary & Budget

The project will establish a Microenterprise Grant Program to provide \$5,000 grants to small, economically disadvantaged businesses in West Central Wisconsin [counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire (excluding the City of Eau Claire), Polk, and St. Croix]. The Microenterprise Grant Program will respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing direct financial relief to businesses to assist in retaining their operations in the region.

Chippewa County will act as the lead county on behalf of the region to secure Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds for the proposed activity. A partnership already exists with the six other counties from Chippewa County's administration of a regional CDBG housing program and participation in a regional business loan fund program originally capitalized with CDBG funds and now staffed by the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC).

Chippewa County will contract with WCWRPC to implement all aspects of the Microenterprise Grant Program. Due to WCWRPC's successful operation of the regional business revolving loan fund program noted above, it has the knowledge and systems in place to successfully administer the grant program.

The partnerships are solidified and there is initial agreement and support for the proposed project in and between Chippewa County and WCWRPC. If awarded, implementation of the program will begin immediately. No matching funds are required.

PROJECT BUDGET	
Grants to Microenterprises (100 grants of \$5,000 each)	\$500,000.00
Program Administration	\$74,750.00
TOTAL	\$574,750.00