

## **Economic, Tourism & Resource Committee**

**March 15, 2011**

The Economic, Tourism & Resource committee met on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 266 second floor of the Administration Building, Lancaster, WI pursuant to the adjournment of the February 15, 2011 meeting.

Members present: John Beinborn, Vince Loeffelholz, Vern Lewison, Vince Loeffelholz and Grant Loy. Todd Johnson, Comm. Resource Development Agent and Ron Brisbois, Economic Development and John Patcle were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Beinborn. The County Clerk verified that the meeting was in compliance with the open meeting laws.

Grant Loy, seconded by Vern Lewison, made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Vern Lewison, made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Revolving Loan: Ron Brisbois, Economic Development Director, presented a revolving load application for Fennimore Lumber, an existing business planning on expanding and adding a larger show-room. This will allow them more opportunities for sales growth and allow the company more flexibility and to be more marketable. They are planning to invest \$60,000 in their business with the build-out and equipment. They will add 2 new full-time jobs, one in Computer Aided Design and one in Sales/Estimator. The loan will be for \$20,000 at 3% interest, term of 5 years. Collateral will be a personal guarantee and liens. Vern Lewison, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz, made a motion to approve this Revolving Loan Application for Fennimore Lumber. Motion carried.

Request of fund: Ron Brisbois, Economic Development Director requested the \$5,900 designated in Grant County's budget under the title "special project" to be transferred to Economic Development to use the money for tourism marketing and to encourage more people to visit Grant County. A target use of the money will be producing at least a 3 year supply of Grant County maps for future use. Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Grant Loy, made a motion to approve the transfer of money to Economic Development. Motion carried.

GCI: The committee gave Todd Johnson, Comm. Resource Development Agent, the go ahead to make the final decisions on the script and people, groups, etc., that will be used for the production of the web site. GCI would like to have at least 4 to 5 people represent the county in the web site production. The goal for the company to shoot the Grant County web site is May 17, 18, 19, 2011.

Tourism Grants: Todd received a late application for the grant money from Muskets and Memories. He informed the group that the second round of applications would be due on July 10, 2011 and that they could apply at that time.

Todd has developed a spread sheet that will help track the applications and the rating process of these applications. It should make the application process easier for the committee. At this time there is about 35% of the grant money left to disperse in the second round. Todd felt the committee will have to scrutinize the applicants much more closely in order to award the final funds.

Old/New Business: Todd Johnson was asked to look into the situation that has occurred with the dispersement of the Hidden Valley Magazine. Cory McCullick has requested that he be paid to disperse the Hidden Valley magazines and they can not be left at the information centers until he received payment. He has requested that all of the magazines be picked up from the Kieler rest area until this issue has been settled. Todd will call this gentleman too work something out with him. The information centers want this magazine; they are very popular in this area.

Adjourn: Vern Lewison, seconded by Grant Loy, made a motion to adjourn the meeting pursuant to the call of the chair for the next meeting time. Motion carried.