

ECONOMIC, RESOURCE AND TOURISM

March 20, 2012

The Economic, Resource and Tourism Committee met on March 20, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 201 on Second Floor of the Administration Building pursuant to the last meeting of February 8, 2012.

Members present: John Beinborn, Vern Lewison, Carol Beals and Grant Loy. John Patcle, County Board Chair, Ron Brisbois, Economic Development and Todd Johnson, Extension Comm. Resource Agent was present also.

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Beinborn. The County Clerk verified that the meeting was in compliance with the open meeting law, published in the Herald Independent and posted in two places.

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

Vern Lewison, seconded by Carol Beals, made a motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2012. Motion carried.

Revolving Loan Application: Ron Brisbois, Economic Development, did not have any Revolving Loan applications to submit to the committee at this time.

Tourism Grant Application: Todd Johnson discussed with the committee some of his ideas in the application process and wording on the applications that he feels would encourage different groups to apply for the grant. The committee discussed possible time limits on applying for the grants. An applicant could participate in a cycle and then sit the next cycle out. This may encourage more groups to try for the grants. The committee did not want to discourage groups from applying but in the past the same applicants always seem to apply. The committee decided to make no changes at this time but too look at the rules in July when the second stage of the grant process would be implemented.

Todd deleted the bullet point from the Ineligible Organizations and Programs section regarding “building—brink and mortar—capital campaigns—and regular maintenance projects” because in the past, money has been awarded to these kind of projects. Todd also made some changes on the Budget form to make it more User-Friendly. The committee agreed with these changes.

CGI Communications Update: Todd previewed the CGI ad on the internet with the committee. Todd explained some of the downfalls that had occurred during the process of making this web site for Grant County. He did not want the public and business’s to feel any pressure to buy the ads for this web site, but that issue did become a problem with some business’s and vendors. All in all the committee agreed that the web site highlighting Grant County was a very good recourse tool to encourage people to come to Grant County. The committee would like to bring the ad before the County Board in the future so they can view the production.

Old/New Business/Communications: John Beinborn submitted a Thank you card to the committee that was sent to Todd Johnson from Jon Angeli, Vice President on behalf of the Grant County Historical Society. They wanted to thank the committee for awarding them the \$1000 for their project and that they appreciated the committee’s consideration and support for their continuing partnership in promoting and developing Grant County and its resources.

Adjournment: Grant Loy, seconded by Carol Beals made a motion to adjourn the meeting to the call of the chair. Motion carried.