

**MINUTES OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY EDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009 – 3:30 P.M.
LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS**

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present

Jose Barrera
Jim Bardenhagen
John Hoagland
Sally Guzowski
Dave Rowe
Dave Shiflett

Directors Absent

Joan Kalchik
Marie Porter
James Reynolds
Todd Stachnik

Staff Present

Tino Breithaupt, Traverse Bay EDC
Sarah Racine, Traverse Bay EDC

Public Present

Kevin and Sue Burns, baabaaZuzu
Joe Bottenhorn, Northwest Michigan WORKS!
Alan Anderson, USDA Rural Development
Matt McCauley, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hoagland called the meeting to order at 3:44 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt McCauley, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments
McCauley updated the Board on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) program through the Economic Development Association (EDA). The Northwest Michigan Council of Governments is the liaison to the EDA from the region. McCauley highly recommended collaboration on projects to help projects receive the attention needed to obtain funding. Please [click here](#) to view the handouts.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by and supported by the agenda for the January meeting was approved.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar for the March meeting consisted of the January minutes, the Treasurers Report and the monthly activity report from the Traverse Bay EDC. The Treasurers Report has been removed from the Consent Calendar and tabled due to a discrepancy on the report. On a motion made by Jose Barrera and supported by Jim Bardenhagen the consent calendar for the March meeting was approved as amended.

OLD BUSINESS

none

NEW BUSINESS

Formation of New Subcommittee

David Shiflett requested the formation of a joint sub-committee to form a “one-stop-shop” for businesses looking to locate their project within Leelanau County. Jose Barrera volunteered to participate on the sub-committee to represent the EDC. The motion to appoint Jose Barrera to the new sub-committee was made by Jim Bardenhagen and supported by Sally Guzowski, motion carried.

Sugar Loaf

David Shiflett has authored a petition for the purpose of re-vitalizing Sugar Loaf. The petition as read at the meeting has been attached to these minutes. The petition will be web-based, and will have the capability of accepting donations from the private sector. The motion to endorse the petition pending review was made by Jose Barrera and supported by Jim Bardenhagen. Discussion ensued regarding the authority of the Landbank and other public entities. Vote was called; motion carried. The petition may be viewed at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/purchase-and-re-develop-sugarloaf.html>

Applications to USDA

Alan Anderson from USDA Rural Development was at the meeting to talk about funding available through the USDA RD. There are some funds available for water/sewer upgrades. Anderson recommended that Leelanau County plan to apply for a loan instead of a grant due to the media household income. Funds could be available for purchase of a sewer system, but only if the purchase price is less than 50% of the amount requested from USDA. The primary contact for community programs is Blake Stuart. Alan Anderson indicated the USDA is still waiting for the Rural Business Enterprise Grant funding for this year. The estimated wait time is one to two months. Please [click here](#) to view the handouts.

Requested Letters of Support

David Shiflett reminded the board that the more a community is in front of or in contact with the legislators the more attention the project receives. A template letter of support will be placed on the website for board members and other contacts to download, fill out and send into the legislators on an individual basis.

OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Reports

Board of Commissioners/EDC/BRA/Landbank

David Shiflett included a summary report from his and Trudy Galla's trip to Washington DC. Please [click here](#) to view the handouts.

Website Training

The County is holding a website training seminar for administrators on the Leelanau County Government site. Sarah Racine has requested to attend the training. Approximate cost is \$50. The motion was made by David Shiflett to approve website training at a cost of up to \$100. Motion was supported by Jim Bardenhagen, the motion was passed.

Traverse Bay EDC Annual Meeting

Tino Breithaupt invited the Board to the Traverse Bay EDC Annual Meeting scheduled for March 19 at the Hagerty Center. L. Brooks Patterson will be the keynote speaker at that meeting and there is no charge to attend. Please contact Bonnie Lackey to register.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin and Sue Burns, baabaaZuzu

baabaaZuzu is expanding once again. They are again looking for funding through the Leelanau County EDC. baabaaZuzu was directed to work with staff to submit an application for additional funding.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Hoagland adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m.