

**Lewiston Economic Development Authority
Minutes
August 26th 2013**

The Lewiston Economic Development Authority met at 5:00 pm on August 26th 2013

Present: Jon Nienow, John Stiles, Sharon Trester, Russ Buege, Larry Rupprecht, John Prigge

Absent: Phil Kalmes

Others: Brian Moehnke,

Meeting was called to order by Nienow at 5:00 pm.

Approve Agenda: The August Agenda was approved. Other Business was moved up to the first point after the news of the day.

Approve Minutes: The July 22nd, 2013 minutes were approved

Other Business & Discussion: The City of Lewiston was informed that the Lewiston Villa Nursing Home is planning to close in October. The current owners have chosen to close the Home due to personal reasons and the upcoming changes in 2014. The current employees will be aided in finding new work. The owners are still looking to sell the building to another suitor and were adamant that it was not a money losing business.

The Ponds Project: We have contracted out with Jon Alness (Prairie Land Professionals) to spray the land twice and burn and hopefully plant before winter. Pheasants Forever donated their \$4,000 to the project. A new name for the project has been asked for as well.

Lewiston Trail Plan: Brian and Larry met with Winona County workers (planning/eda) and they will provide help behind the scenes to help keep our plan moving forward. Russ shared that their plan is almost finished and will be presenting to the City Council in the near future. Trailheads and identity of the City came up and still need to be further discussed.

MnDOT Hwy 14 Landscaping: The plans are almost finished, should be getting them very soon. Our project was pushed back at MNDOT and is now a little higher in priority.

Financial Report: Finances were status quo. A budget was accepted and approved for the 2014 year, very similar to last year's budget. We talked about how to help one of our businesses which has an RLF loan out to them as they struggle to get their payments to the EDA.

Other Business & Discussion II: Brian brought up his research on how comparable cities may or may not have grocery stores (which lead to a discussion on how one could succeed) but every city like ours has one fully opened, fully staffed medical clinic in it. Some cities even have two. Our location to Rochester is hard to truly capture a comparable with, but a city with nearly 2,000 people not having a clinic or a pharmacy is an oddity. Future work will come of this conversation. Also, a discussion on who and how the ownership changed of the land just south of City Hall went. Jon Nienow will look into his notes.

Adjourned at 6:18

Prepared by: Brian Moehnke