Economic Development Board Meeting, July 11, 2018

Meeting called to order: 12:08 p.m. Open meeting law posted

Members Present: Tom Shoemaker, Darcy Johnson, Randy Heitmann, Jarod Albers, and Dave Custer

Member Absent: Jan tenBensel, Judy Jackson, Leah TenBensel

Others present: Diane Henderson

No additions or changes to the agenda.

Consent Approval of Minutes and Bills:
Darcy Johnson made motion to accept the bill as presented, minutes approved via email upon receipt, Dave Custer seconded. Motion carried.

New Business & Action items:

Executive Director position: Tom Shoemaker gave an update on hiring a new ED Coordinator; she will begin on July 25th, 2018. Diane will be available to acclimate the new ED during this transition period.

All City Garage Sales: Diane updated the board on the City Wide Garage sales. Dawn Burke is no longer in charge of this event. It was suggested that this become a joint venture between the Chamber and ED Board. Currently, Kim Fegley has agreed to take this venture on for this year.

Vision 2035: The Vision 2035 plan needs to be approved by the Board before the August meeting in order for this plan to be on the November ballot. Concerns about being on the ballot on the same time as the city/pool vote. An email vote will be utilized to approve the plan, so that Board members have a couple more days to make comments.

Testimonial Marketing: A promotional tool is being put together of testimonials from people/businesses/organizations that have taken advantage of ED programs and use these as advertisements to promote ED.

Downtown Center: Currently the building is still owned by the city; finances are in place and should be finalized shortly.

Non-LB840 funding: Due to a shortage in funds in the non-LB840 programs, two down payment assistance applications that have been approved will be the last of the money available until more unrestricted funds are raised.
**Economic Development Budget:** The budget is due to the City Council before its Aug. 6 meeting. The budget will be coordinated to priorities in the Vision 2035 plan. Diane will get it started and work with Kandra and the new ED director to get the budget together and delivered to the Board for an email vote before the Aug. 6 City Council meeting.

**Project Updates:**

**CAV Repair:** Concrete has been poured at the new location south of Cambridge. Revolving-loan documents were completed and payment made to CAV. Kandra will manage repayment process.

**Social Media:** Facebook postings/boostings appear to be progressing in a positive manner with lots of positive feedback, even though Facebook added new rules that make sharing and boosting businesses’ posts much more time-consuming.

**Nebraska Life Cambridge Edition:** The extra copies (for promotion) have been ordered and are on their way.

**Harvest Meadows Update:**
Kevin Gufford: Unable to establish contact with him, appears that his projected projects will not be moving forward.
Farmers: Things are being placed on hold for the moment.
McCarville: No progress has been made; they have 6 months to break ground and 18 months to finish the project from the date the contracts were signed.
Seed Corn Dealership: the land asked about has not been platted, though Kandra says that would be easy to accomplish on the lot that Lance Shifflet had looked at. Diane will contact builder to get update, as he is working on financing at this point.

**Transition:**
Diane will return the ED laptop and files on July 25th when the new ED starts and will help in the transition of the position.

**Façade Grant program:**
Lockenhour-Jones has turned in an invoice for their grant. Finished product looks terrific!
Sondra Johnson is considering filing an application to paint the outside of her studio.

**Other Business:**
No other business to be presented at this time.

Next meeting, August 8th @ noon

**Meeting Adjourned: 12:55p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Randy Heitmann, 2nd by Dave Custer**