



---

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

---

CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

## MINUTES

### Regular Session of the Economic Development Authority City of Wells, Minnesota

#### CALL TO ORDER:

The Wells Economic Development Authority (WEDA) convened in regular session on January 19, 2010 at 5:20 p.m. in the Wells City Hall conference room. President Brad Heggen called the meeting to order with the following members and employees present: Commissioner Steve Burns, Commissioner Jim Heckman, and Commissioner Shannon Savick. Employees present: Community Development Director Austin Bless and Wells City Administrator Jeremy Germann.

#### CONSENT ITEMS:

The minutes of the regularly scheduled WEDA meeting held on December 15, 2009, were reviewed. President Heggen called for a motion. Commissioner Burns made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Savick seconded the motion. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bruce Mandler entered at 5:35 pm.

Director Bless presented the financial reports. Commissioner Heckman asked on having a Balance and Income sheet included in the packet. Director Bless said this could be easily done. Commissioner Heckman asked if using the Estimated Market Value was the best way to list our assets for property owned. Discussion held. Commissioner Burns motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Commissioner Mandler seconded. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen, Mandler and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

Director Bless asked for a motion to pay the Historical Society and Mike Beckman back for the Depot Project using the money from the MN Historical Society. Discussion held. Commissioner Mandler motioned to authorize payment to the Historical Society and Mike Beckman. Commissioner Heckman seconded the motion. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen, Mandler and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

Director Bless also asked on requesting an Administrative Fee for administering the grant money. Discussion held. Commissioner Burns motioned to seek a reimbursement of \$5,000 to cover staff expenses. Commissioner Heckman seconded the motion.

President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen, Mandler and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

President Heggen brought the issue of the Singleteary Food Solutions project to the floor. The commission was given an update on the project. The commission was informed they are still in negotiations with the bank, but have gotten an agreement to rent the building in the meantime. Singleteary Food Solutions has moved a line of equipment into the building. They are also advertising for jobs in the local Wells papers. Production should start in February. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the issue of advertising WEDA programs to the floor. Director Bleess presented the handout that he put together to give to people that came in seeking information on how the Wells EDA can assist them and he asked for input from the Commissioners. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the issue of the Trailer Court Property to the table. Administrator Germann informed the Commissioners the site will be used for some law enforcement training and the cleanup work is to be completed by the beginning of May 2010. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the topic of the Binde Building and the Food-n-Fuel building to the table. Discussion held.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

President Heggen brought the issue of the request by Director Bleess to pay for membership in Economic Development Association of Minnesota. Director Bleess informed the commissioners of the benefits of EDAM and asked the EDA to pay for the membership. Discussion held. Commissioner Heckman motioned to approve payment for the membership of Director Bleess. Commissioner Mandler seconded the motion. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen, Mandler and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

President Heggen brought the issue of the Linder Enterprises lease agreement to the table. Director Bleess informed the Commissioner that he had a conversation with Linder Enterprises and they are working on getting some large contracts. The outcome of securing these contracts would affect their plans for when the lease expires in July. Discussion held.

Administrator Germann asked for feedback from the EDA on the performance of Director Bleess. Discussion held. Commissioner Heckman motioned to inform the City Council that the EDA is very pleased with the job that Director Bleess has done so far and the EDA recommends the City Council take Director Bleess off of probation. Commissioner Mandler seconded the motion. President Heggen took a roll call with

Commissioners Burns, Heckman, Heggen, Mandler and Savick voting aye. Motion carried.

Director Bleess brought the issue of grant money to establish an energy efficiency revolving loan fund to the table. Director Bleess informed the Commissioners on this program and what it may take for the EDA to receive grant money. Commissioner Savick mentioned the possibility of a joint application with the Winnebago EDA. Discussion held. Commissioner Heckman moved to have Director Bleess look into the program and find out how much in matching funds would be needed and to apply for the program if it would be a good fit for the Wells EDA. Commissioner Savick seconded the motion.

President Heggen opened the meeting to public comment. There being no public comment, President Heggen closed the meeting to public comment.

President Heggen announced the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wells EDA will be on February 16, 2010 in the Conference Room at Wells City Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made by Commissioner Mandler and seconded by Commissioner Heckman to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

---

Darin Magnuson  
Secretary/Treasurer

---

Austin Bleess  
Community Development Director