



## City of Moorhead Economic Development Authority

Meeting Minutes  
October 04, 2021 at 11:45 AM  
Hjemkomst Center Auditorium - 202 1 Ave N

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority was held in the Hjemkomst Center Auditorium - 202 1 Ave N, on October 04, 2021, at 11:45 AM.

### **Roll call of the members was made as follows:**

Board Member:	Abdullahi Ali	Present
Board Member:	Nate Anderson	Absent
Board Member:	Michael Burns	Present
Council Member:	Laura Caroon	Present
Board Member:	Chad Cota	Present
Board Member:	Alexandre Cyusa	Present
Board Member:	James Hand	Absent
Board Member:	Joel Paulsen	Present
Board Member:	Jeff Schaumann	Present
Board Member:	Roberta Solien	Present
Council Member:	Deb White	Present

### 1. [Call meeting to Order / Roll Call](#)

### 2. [Agenda Amendments](#)

Minutes: A quorum was not present at the start of the meeting. LaPoint suggested beginning with Commissioner's Reports and Onward Moorhead until another board member joins the meeting.

### 3. **Approve Minutes**

A [August 30, 2021](#)

**Motion to Approve made by Deb White and seconded by Laura Caroon**

*Motion Passed: For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2 – Anderson, Hand*

Minutes: Commissioner Paulsen requested that Item 8 be reviewed prior to publication to include who seconded the motion.

### 4. [Citizens Addressing the Board](#)

Minutes: None

### 5. [Commissioners' Reports](#)

Minutes: In Commissioner Hand's absence, Sheri Larson, Executive Director, provided a Moorhead Business Association update.

**6. [Resolution of Preliminary Approval of the Issuance of Facility Revenue Bonds to Lakes & Prairies Community Action Partnership Inc. Project – Jim Stewart, Arntson Stewart Wegner PC](#)**

Minutes: Jim Stewart, Arntson Stewart Wegner PC, stated that Lakes & Prairies Community Action Partnership has requested the Moorhead EDA issue facility revenue bonds in the amount of approximately \$1.8 million to finance the acquisition and renovation of office facilities located at 861, 871, 881 and 891 Belsly Boulevard. He stated that it is Lakes & Prairies sole responsibility to repay the bonds. The request is subject to the approval of the Department of Employment and Economic Development and a public hearing to be held at the EDA's November 1, 2021, meeting.

**Motion to Approve made by Chad Cota and seconded by Deb White**

Approve Resolution Relating to a Project under the Industrial Development Act, Giving the Project Preliminary Approval, Subject to a Public Hearing (Lakes & Prairies Community Action Partnership, Inc. Project)

*Motion Passed: For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2 – Anderson, Hand*

**7. [Onward Moorhead! Presentation and Discussion - Beth Elliott, Stantec](#)**

Minutes: Robin Huston, City Planner, introduced the members of the Stantec team: Jason Beske (Stantec - Land Use, Community Design, and Project Manager), Tom Leighton (Stantec - Economic Development), Lauren Walberg (Stantec – Plan Process and Engagement), Sierra Schlichting (Toole Design - Multi-modal Transportation). Moorhead's Comprehensive Plan document helps identify future issues, trends, goals and visions, and prepare for change.

The presentation focused primarily on the "Economic Competitiveness" portion of the plan which begins on page 15 of the packet materials. Board members had detailed discussion and provided input.

**8. Annual Update from Partner Organizations**

**A [West Central Initiative Annual Update - Rebecca Petersen and Greg Wagner, WCI](#)**

Minutes: Rebecca Petersen, Director of Development, and Greg Wagner, Director of Business & Economic Development, were present to provide an annual report on the services provided by West Central Initiative and its economic development goals, programs, grants and loans.

**B [Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Corporation Annual Update - Joe Raso, President](#)**

Minutes: Joe Raso, President & CEO, provided an update of the work his organization is doing within the Fargo Moorhead metro area. He touched on the following topics:

- Moorhead's Comprehensive Plan
- Build Back Better Grant - Partnering with the West Central Initiative to submit a grant for the region
- Marketing Moorhead's Platinum Document Ready site
- Community Virtual Tour to share our community with a business outside the marketplace to get an idea of what living and working in the Fargo Moorhead metro
- Fueling Our Future – Ignite social media platform to connect students to the community (Folkways - Joe Burgum).
- Regional Housing Study

- Resilient Moorhead Task Force
- Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program

**9. Economic Development Report**

Minutes: Derrick LaPoint, DMI/Economic Development, provided a brief update to the report included in packet materials.

**10. Information / Update**

- A City of Moorhead Comprehensive Plan: Onward Moorhead!  
[www.cityofmoorhead.com/onwardmoorhead](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com/onwardmoorhead)
- B Clay County Comprehensive and Transportation Plan: <https://fmmetrocog.org/claycounty2045>
- C Building & Permit Valuation Report - Sign up for "Building and Housing" e-Notifications at:  
<https://www.ci.moorhead.mn.us/about-the-city/news/sign-up-for-e-notification>

**11. Adjourn**

Minutes: Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



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Michael Burns  
Chair

ATTEST:



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Roberta Solien  
Secretary

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

*Respectfully submitted by:*  
*Amy Thorpe, Economic Development Program Administrator*