

County of Huron
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Due to Huron County's COVID Response Plan, this meeting took place virtually.

The Economic Development Board met virtually on April 14, 2021. Members of the Board present were: Brad Chandler (departed at 6:36 PM), Jim Ginn, Liz Ihrig, Leanne Kavanagh, John Kiser, Bernie MacLellan, John Marshall, Glen McNeil, Tim Prior (joined at 5:03 PM) and Jason Oud. Members of the Board Absent: none. Staff present: Chief Administrative Officer Meighan Wark, Director of Economic Development Cody Joudry and Clerk Susan Cronin.

1. Chair Marshall called the Huron County Economic Development Board meeting to order at 5:01 PM:

2. Approval of Agenda:

There were two (2) additions to the agenda:

9.5 COVID Shutdown Discussion, Responses From Public, Board Response, Potential Outcomes (presented by John Marshall)

9.6 Broadband Update (presented by Cody Joudry)

Moved by: Member Kavanagh and Seconded by: Member MacLellan

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board agenda for April 14, 2021 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

There were no declarations stated.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Chandler

THAT:

The minutes of the Huron County Economic Development Board meeting of March 10, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Presentations/Delegations:

5.1. Huron County Economic Development Dashboard (presented by Alex Ripley and Davie Lee)

Moved by: Member Prior and Seconded by: Member Chandler

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THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report by Alex Ripley, Economic Development Officer, and Davie Lee, Advisor, Townfolio / Munisight, dated April 14, 2021, titled Huron County Economic Development Dashboard, as presented for information.

CARRIED

6. Opening Comments and Updates from the Chair:

Chair Marshall informed members that a donation was received from RBC Corporation for the Huron Entrepreneur Fund. Chair Marshall is working with staff to create a new identity for the Entrepreneur Fund project. A report with updates will be presented at a future meeting.

At the last meeting the HCEDB approved funds for the airport study. There is an update report coming to the Board from the Airport Task Force meeting regarding the findings of this report.

The Renewal Committee is reviewing applications to fill the board vacancy position. A recommendation will be made shortly.

Huron County Economic Development staff has launched the Huron Housing Demand Survey. This survey is focusing on housing in Huron and will be forwarded to all board members.

7. Board Member Issues:

Warden McNeil thanked the RBC Corporation for their donation and support for the Entrepreneur Fund.

Warden Ginn stated that 15 million dollars in funding has been released for the broadband project. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

8. Correspondence: None.

9. New Business and / or Unfinished Business:

9.1. Economic Development Department March 2021 Update (presented by Cody Joudry)

Moved by: Member Kavanagh and Seconded by: Member Ginn

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report by Reanne Clark, Office Administrator, dated April 14, 2021, titled Economic Development Department March 2021 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.2. Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network Strategy (presented by Lily Morrow)

Moved by: Member MacLellan and Seconded by: Member Prior

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The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report of Lily Morrow, Climate Change and Energy Specialist dated April 14, 2021 titled Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network Strategy, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board approves the request of Lily Morrow, Climate Change and Energy Specialist to contribute \$5,000 towards a feasibility study for the development of a regional electric vehicle charging network.

CARRIED

9.3. COVID-19 Safety Plan Webinar Report March 2021 (presented by Brittany Wise)

Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Chandler

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report by Brittany Wise, Entrepreneur and Business Program Coordinator, dated April 14, 2021, titled COVID-19 Safety Plan Webinar Report March 2021, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.4. Huron County Economic Development Department Consultation and Coaching Update (presented by Patrick Donnelly)

Moved by: Member Prior and Seconded by: Member Ginn

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report by Patrick Donnelly, Entrepreneur and Business Coach, dated April 14, 2021, titled Huron County Economic Development Department Consultation and Coaching Update, April 2021, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.5 COVID Shutdown Discussion, Responses From Public, Board Response, Potential Outcomes (presented by John Marshall)

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Member Ihrig

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the verbal report by John Marshall, Chair of the Economic Development Board, dated April 14, 2021, titled COVID Shutdown Discussion, Responses From Public, Board Response, Potential Outcomes, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.6 Broadband Update (presented by Cody Joudry)

Moved by: Member Kiser and Seconded by: Member Ginn

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The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the verbal report by Cody Joudry, Director of Economic Development, dated April 14, 2021, titled Broadband Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10. Financial Statements:

Year-end statements are in progress and currently not available.

11. Closed to the Public Session: None.

12. Future Meeting Topics:

- Members are to send all requested future meeting topics to Chair Marshall.

13. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Huron County Economic Development Board will held virtually on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

14. Adjournment:

Moved by: Member Prior and Seconded by: Member Kiser

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board meeting adjourn at 7:04 PM.

CARRIED