

County of Huron
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM

This meeting took place at 57 Napier Street, Goderich and virtually through zoom.

The Economic Development Board met in person and virtually on April 6, 2023. Members of the Board present were: Tina Bax, Jim Ginn, Lynne Harris, Jamie Heffer, John Kiser, Glen McNeil, Jason Oud and Frances Westley (departed at 11:37 AM). Members of the Board Absent: Derek Van Dieten. Staff present: Chief Administrative Officer Meighan Wark, Director of Economic Development Vicki Lass and Clerk Susan Cronin.

1. Chair Vincent called the Huron County Economic Development Board meeting to order at 9:03 AM:

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Member Heffer and Seconded by Member Ginn

THAT:

The Economic Development Board Agenda for April 6, 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

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

There were no declarations stated.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Moved by: Member Oud and Seconded by: Member Kiser

THAT:

The minutes of the Huron County Economic Development Board meeting of March 9, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Presentations/Delegations:

5.1 Presentation by Diana MacDonald, Director, Ipsos, and Cheyenne Martin, Managing Consultant, Prism Economics, to deliver the findings of research undertaken to demonstrate the contribution of tourism to the economy of Huron County.

Moved by: Member Kiser and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the Ipsos and Prism Economics presentation dated April 6, 2023 by Diana MacDonald, Director with Ipsos, and Cheyenne Martin, Managing Consultant with Prism Economics, as presented for information.

CARRIED

Agenda item 9.1 was presented.

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9.1. Learning Moment (presented by Vicki Lass)

Each month key stakeholders are asked to attend the Economic Development Board meeting to discuss the work they do. This learning moment is designed to increase Board Members' understanding of the opportunities and challenges of our partners and collaborators. Murray Workman, President and Rob VandenHengel, Vice President of the Huron County Federation of Agriculture presented to the board.

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development, dated April 6, 2023 titled Learning Moment, for information.

CARRIED

6. Opening Comments and Updates from the Chair:

Chair Vincent congratulated CAO Wark on her appointment to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Board County Caucus. Upcoming events include Community Economic Development 101 on April 12, 2023 in Walkerton and the Tourism Summit in Clinton on April 24, 2023. He also requested board members complete the mandatory training sent by email to each member. Chair Vincent and Vicki Lass visited the Municipality of South Huron. This is in an effort to meet with all partner municipalities in Huron County.

7. Board Member Comments:

John Kiser was a guest speaker at Sustainable Huron. Lynne Harris attended a Mental Health Event for farmers offered through OFA and Guardian Network.

8. Correspondence:

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Economic Development Board accepts correspondence not specifically dealt with, for information.

CARRIED

9. New Business and / or Unfinished Business:

9.1. Learning Moment (presented by Vicki Lass)

This item was considered after agenda item 5.1.

9.2. Economic Development Board Meeting Time & Day Review (presented by Vicki Lass)

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Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Heffer

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development, dated April 6, 2023 titled Economic Development Meeting Time and Day for information.

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Economic Development Board approve/disapprove meetings be moved to the first Thursday of each month at 9 am for the remainder of 2023 and for future Board meetings;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Economic Development Board request Huron County Council amend the 2023 Huron County Council Calendar - Notice of Meetings as presented.

CARRIED

9.3. Economic Development Board Working Groups (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Member Oud

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development, dated April 6, 2023 titled Economic Development Board Working Groups for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Economic Development Board approve the prioritized list of Economic Development Board Working Groups as examined by the group discussion held on March 9, 2023.

CARRIED

9.4. Economic Development Dept March 2023 Report (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Member Harris and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Chair & Members of the Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Economic Development Director, dated April 6, 2023, titled Economic Development Department March 2023 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.5. Starter Company Plus Graduates Meet and Greet (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Warden McNeil

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development, dated April 6, 2023 titled Starter Company Plus Graduates Meet and Greet for information.

CARRIED

10. Financial Statements:

10.1. Financial Statements: Year-end statements are in progress and not currently available.

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11. Closed to the Public Session: None.

12. Future Meeting Topics:

- Base Analysis report
- Learning Moment
- Tour Nuclear Waste Organization
- Delegation regarding hydrogen Plan

13. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Huron County Economic Development Board will be held on Thursday May 18, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

14. Adjournment:

Moved by: Member Kiser and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board meeting adjourn at 12:04 PM.

CARRIED

Chair Bryan Vincent