

County of Huron  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, May 18, 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 May 18, 2023. Members of the Board present were: Bryan Vincent, Tina Bax, Jim Ginn, Lynne Harris, Jamie Heffer, Glen McNeil, Jason Oud. Members of the Board Absent: Derek Van Dieten, John Kiser and Frances Westley. 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 9:01 AM:**

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

Chair Vincent stated that item 5.2 will be presented prior to item 5.1.

Moved by Member Ginn and Seconded by Member Heffer

THAT:

The Economic Development Board Agenda for May 18, 2023 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 Ginn

THAT:

The minutes of the Huron County Economic Development Board meeting of April 6, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**5. Presentations/Delegations:**

5.2 Housing Affordability Research Learnings presentation by Nancy Orr, Rural Housing Specialist & Facilitator of Action.

Moved by: Member Bax and Seconded by: Member Oud

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the presentation by Nancy Orr, Rural Housing Specialist & Facilitator of Action, dated May 18, 2023 titled Housing Affordability Research Learnings for information..

CARRIED

5.1. Housing Update (presented by Denise Van Amersfoort)

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Moved by: Member Bax and Seconded by: Member Heffer

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receive the presentation by Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning, titled Housing Update be received for information.

CARRIED

**6. Opening Comments and Updates from the Chair:**

Chair Vincent attended the Sunset Foundation Annual meeting where the Goderich Lions Club received a \$10,000 grant for the Huron County Economic Development Immigration Program. He also stated that he attended the Tourism Summit on April 24, 2023 hosted by Huron County. The speakers were excellent and well received. Congratulations to our staff.

Director Vicki Lass introduced staff members: Danika Tait-ED Communications Coordinator, Chase Richardson-Digital Service Squad Team and Sam Sparling-ED Tourism.

Chair Vincent indicated that the board has a meeting scheduled in 2 weeks. He suggested that this meeting be cancelled and used for the Housing Working Group.

Moved by: Member Heffer and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board cancel the scheduled June 1, 2023 meeting.

CARRIED

**7. Board Member Comments:**

Member Oud informed members that the Huron Manufacturing Association held the Annual General Meeting. The members is growing outside the Huron County borders.

Member Bax informed members that the Bayfield downtown revitalization sidewalk portion is almost complete.

Member Ginn informed members that the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Economic Development meeting will be held in Huron County in June 2023.

Moved by: Member Heffer and Seconded by: Member Harris

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development send correspondence to the province supporting Huron County Council's comments on Bill 97 and the Provincial Policy Statement.

CARRIED

**8. Correspondence: None.**

**9. New Business and / or Unfinished Business:**

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Director Vicki Lass stated that there is a joint committee that has been established with Stratfor, Perth, Huron and the United Way. John Marshall is the only representative from Huron County on this joint committee. Chair Vincent stated that as the Housing Working Committee will be meeting on June 6, 2023 he was looking for comments on appointing John Marshall as a citizen member to the Huron County's committee.

Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Ginn

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development approve the appointment of John Marshall to the Economic Development Housing Working Group.

CARRIED

9.1. Economic Development Dept April 2023 Report (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Member Bax and Seconded by: Member Harris

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Economic Development Director, dated May 18, 2023, titled Economic Development Department April 2023 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.2. SLED 2023 Outcomes (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Member Bax and Seconded by: Warden McNeil

THAT:

The Economic Development Board receives the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development, dated May 18, 2023 titled SLED 2023 Outcomes.

CARRIED

**10. Financial Statements:**

10.1. The Draft Financial Statements for the month ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 were reviewed.

Moved by: Member Ginn and Seconded by: Member Heffer

THAT:

The draft financial statements for the month ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 be received.

CARRIED

**11. Closed to the Public Session: None.**

**12. Future Meeting Topics:**

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

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**13. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Huron County Economic Development Board will be held on Thursday July 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

**14. Adjournment:**

Moved by: Member Heffer and Seconded by: Member Bax

THAT:

The Huron County Economic Development Board meeting adjourn at 11:19 AM.

CARRIED

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Chair Bryan Vincent