

**KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**January 27, 2021**

**Via ZOOM Video Conference**

Present: Matt Behm, Allen Huselid, Kerry Johnson and Les Nelson

Excused: Nick Dalton, Travis Jones and Justin Schnichels

Guest: Larry Kleindl, Kandiyohi County Administrator and Jean Spaulding, Kandiyohi County CARES Act Coordinator

Staff: Aaron Backman, Executive Director and Connie Schmoll, Business Development Manager

Secretarial: Nancy Birkeland, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc.

Chairperson Matt Behm called the meeting to order at approximately 12:02 p.m.

**Minnesota Pandemic Relief (MPR) Grant Program.** Aaron Backman reported the EDC has received 58 applications to date with more than 90% being from businesses. Seven businesses are ineligible as they are below the 20% revenue loss and four received funding from the Minnesota Department of Revenue making them ineligible for this program. Five applicants are nonprofit organizations with two being Tier II and one being ineligible. There are eight Tier III applications being held. Fifteen grants approved by the EDC have been approved by the County Board.

The committee reviewed a list of 17 small business MPR grant applicants with EDC staff's recommendation as to a grant award. Backman reported 10 out of the 17 applicants are from Willmar. The average tenure of the businesses is 11 years, total number of employees is 137 and average loss is 46%. Backman believes the grant funds will be expended before the February 17th deadline.

IT WAS MOVED BY Kerry Johnson, SECONDED BY Allen Huselid, to approve the recommendation of the EDC staff to award Minnesota Pandemic Relief Grants to 17 businesses on the attached list (copy attached to the original minutes only due to the Data Privacy Act) for a total grant award of \$265,000. MOTION CARRIED.

Backman noted the first 14 grants approved by this committee were approved by the County Board and a majority have received their checks.

Schmoll reported EDC staff is awaiting receipt of final expense reports from only two businesses under the CARES Pandemic Relief Grant Program. The IRS 1099 forms have been completed by Westberg Eischens and are ready to be mailed to grant recipients.

**NEXT MEETING**—The next special committee meeting is **12:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 3, 2021** via ZOOM video conference.

**ADJOURNMENT**—There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:14 p.m.