

**KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 16, 2020**  
**Via Teleconference**

Present: Matt Behm, Nick Dalton, Les Nelson, Jeff Welker and Randy Zinda

Excused: Kerry Johnson, Travis Jones and Justin Schnichels

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 11:06 a.m.

**Small Business Relief Grant Program.** Backman informed the committee the legislature and Governor Walz approved \$60.3 million for small business relief grants, similar to the Small Business Emergency Loan program. Fifty percent of the funds will be available to businesses in greater Minnesota and 50% for businesses in the metro area. Grants will be up to \$10,000 and will be awarded by lottery. Backman provided the criteria for the program that will close July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**COBAL Review.** Backman reported 50 businesses have asked for information to date. The EDC Joint Operations Board approved broadening the eligibility requirements and agreed to use \$25,000 to expand the program. Loan applications for consideration today are under the broadened eligibility.

- **M & D Transport LLC.** Backman provided information on M & D Transport LLC, a single-truck business owned by Mohamed Ahmed. The loan would be to reinstate his auto insurance. A credit report was obtained and Ahmed provided his 2019 tax return. The business is in good standing with the Secretary of State. Staff is recommending a loan of \$5,000.

IT WAS MOVED BY Les Nelson, SECONDED BY Jeff Welker, to approve a \$5,000 loan to M & D Transport LLC under the COVID-19 Business Assistance Loan program with a six-month deferment. MOTION CARRIED.

- **Paisley Threads, L.L.C.** Backman provided information on Paisley Threads, LLC, which is located in New London. The business is a sole proprietorship owned by Linda Lagergren and has been

in business nine months. A credit report was received showing significant debt. As a result, staff is recommending a loan of \$2,500. No action was taken by the committee.

- New Minnesotan Realty L.L.C. Backman provided information on New Minnesotan Realty L.L.C., owner of Midtown Plaza in downtown Willmar. A credit report was obtained on the owner Sahra Gure and four years of financial information was received. Staff is recommending a \$5,000 loan. As Home State Bank and Mid-Minnesota Development Commission have lending relationships with the business, Matt Behm and Les Nelson indicated they will abstain from voting.

IT WAS MOVED BY Nick Dalton, SECONDED BY Randy Zinda, to approve a \$5,000 loan to New Minnesotan Realty L.L.C. under the COVID-19 Business Assistance Loan program with a six-month deferment. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT**—There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:26 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING**—The next special committee meeting is tentatively set for **11 a.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2020** via teleconference.