



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**JOINT OPERATIONS BOARD (OB) MEETING**

**AGENDA**

11:00 a.m., July 13, 2023

Community Room, Heritage Bank, N.A., Willmar and Via ZOOM Video Conference

11:00 **CALL TO ORDER** (6 members/4 = quorum) . . . . . President Art Benson

11:01 **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA OR CONSENT AGENDA** . . . . . President Benson

11:02 **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve:
1. Minutes of June 8, 2023
  2. Financial reports as of June 30, 2023
  3. Approve payment per an Agreement for Services to Fatouma Hachim of Invoice No. 0000004 in the amount of \$2,816 from the Elevate Community Business Academy/Professional Services/Program Instructor line of the budget
  4. Approve payments under the Child Care Economic Development Grant Program for 29 Forgivable Loan Agreements with the individuals/entities noted on the list provided
- Accept:
- Committee/Subcommittee Minutes
1. Broadband and Advanced Technology 6/5/2023
  2. Finance 5/9/2023

11:05 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA** . . . . . President Benson

11:15 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Childcare Position with UCAP. . . . . Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg

11:45 **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Closed Session for Office Space Discussion. . . . . Aaron Backman
2. Closed Session for Annual Review of Executive Director. . . . . President Benson

12:00 **REPORTS**

1. Economic Development Activity . . . . . Jacob Kolander/Justice Walker/Leslie Valiant/  
Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
2. Elevate Community Business Academy. . . . . Sarah Swedburg
  - a. Creation of an Advisory Committee
3. Grants. . . . . Sarah Swedburg
  - a. Child Care Economic Development Grant
  - b. Main Street Economic Revitalization Program

12:35 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Agriculture and Renewable Energy Development . . . . . Abdulcadir Gaal/Sarah Swedburg
  - a. Industrial Hemp Exploratory Subcommittee . . . . . Sarah Swedburg
2. Broadband and Advanced Technology . . . . . Jesse Gislason/Sarah Swedburg
3. Marketing and Public Relations . . . . . Jesse Gislason/Kelsey Olson
4. Business Retention and Expansion/Recruitment . . . . . Les Heitke/Mary Warszynski/  
Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
5. Finance . . . . . Kelly TerWisscha/Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
  - a. Approve Loan to Paul’s Tree Work LLC
6. Leisure Travel . . . . . Art Benson/Kelsey Olson

12:55 **WHAT’S UP.** . . . . . Board Members

1:00 **ADJOURNMENT** . . . . . President Benson

**NEXT MEETING**—The next regular board meeting is **11:00 a.m., Thursday, August 10, 2023** at the Community Room of Heritage Bank, 310 First Street SW, Willmar, and via ZOOM video conference