KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES July 25, 2016 WORKUP, Willmar

Present:	Donna Boonstra, Shari Courtney, Jean Geselius, Sarah Isdal and Heather Koffler
Excused:	Lindsey Donner, Ann Winge Johnson, Mike Negen and Julie Redepenning
Guests:	Ashley Queenan of Heritage Bank and Jayme Sczublewski of REDstar Creative/WORKUP
Staff:	Aaron Backman, Executive Director
Secretarial:	Nancy Birkeland, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc. (LAA)

Chairperson Heather Koffler called the meeting to order at approximately 12:02 p.m.

MINUTES-

IT WAS MOVED BY Sarah Isdal, SECONDED BY Jean Geselius, to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 meeting as emailed. MOTION CARRIED.

2016 Marketing Plan. Backman distributed the final MinnWest Technology Campus (MWTC) flyer (<u>see</u> attached) and noted he shared copies with Joanna Schrupp of MWTC, as well as a prospective tenant. Backman indicated the next flyer he would like done is for the Willmar Industrial Park and shared ideas, including a flyer for Northport Industrial Park of North Mankato (<u>see</u> attached) and information on Grand Sky in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and the Hutchinson, Isanti and Brainerd Lakes ads in the *Minnesota Thriving in the North* magazine. Backman is looking for information that will make the Willmar Industrial Park stand out and is determining whether to include both the Third and Fourth Additions or just the Fourth Addition that was recently certified shovel-ready. Committee members felt the map showing available lots in the Northport Industrial Park and current owners would be important information to include for prospects. Suggestions for the EDC's flyer included: use logos of businesses currently located in the Industrial Park; use a sketch map rather than an aerial photo; highlight the availability of Executive Express (airport shuttle service); use testimonials; provide in-depth information on certain companies; mention the restrictive covenants.

Backman showed the 2016 *Minnesota Thriving in the North* magazine and EDC ad and reviewed the EDC's final ad for the 2017 magazine (see attached). Backman reported he sent the same ad to the *West Central Tribune* for a new magazine it will be doing relative to economic development, similar to the *Impact* magazine done in Alexandria.

Backman indicated he will also look at doing a similar ad for the 2017 Visitors Guide. Backman spoken with Beth Fischer of the Willmar Lakes Area Convention and Visitors Bureau about doing a half size ad in the 2017 Visitors Guide rather than a two-page spread as was done last year.

Other. Backman reminded the committee the next newsletter will be digital and will be published in October.

NEW BUSINESS

August meeting. Backman announced that because of his schedule, the August meeting is cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT—There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:08 p.m.

NEXT MEETING—The next committee meeting is **12 noon, Monday, September 26, 2016** at WORKUP, 1601 Technology Drive NE, Willmar.



RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY

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The serene grounds of the 100-acre MinnWest Technology Campus are more than just lush green space and lakeside views. Inside the picturesque buildings of this historic campus are companies on the cutting edge of research and technology innovation - many of them pioneers in their respective industries. The campus boasts an array of R&D-focused technology, bioscience, and animal science companies, including national and global leaders in agriculture and advanced manufacturing such as Nova-Tech Engineering, Epitopix, Life Science Innovations (LSI), Prinsco, Inc. and ProCore.

When the MinnWest Technology Campus opened in 2006, it had 5 businesses with 107 employees on campus. Today, there are 33 businesses with over 550 employees on campus. There are also 4 state-of-the-art R&D labs including a University of Minnesota Extension Level II clean room and teaching lab with a DNA sequencing machine - the only one of its kind in Minnesota outside of the Twin Cities and Mayo Clinic in Rochester. home to national & global leaders in ag & advanced manufacturing

4 R&D labs Level II clean room Teaching lab with DNA sequencing



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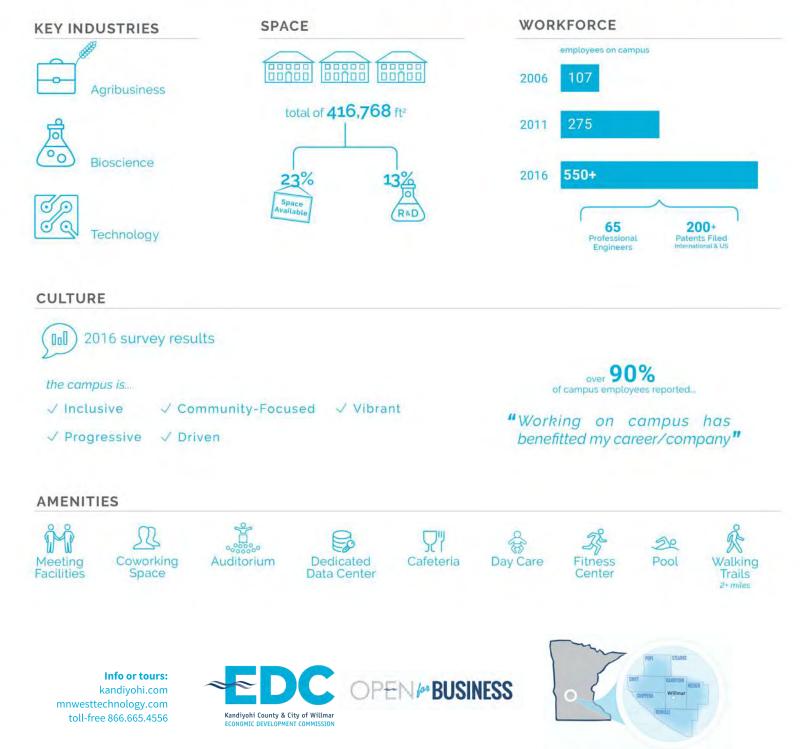




A CLOSER LOOK

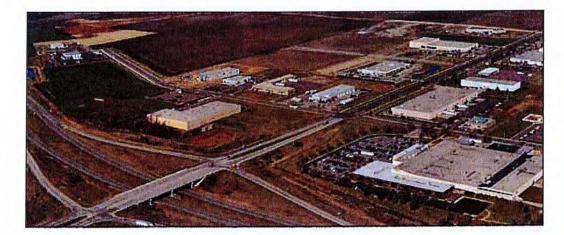
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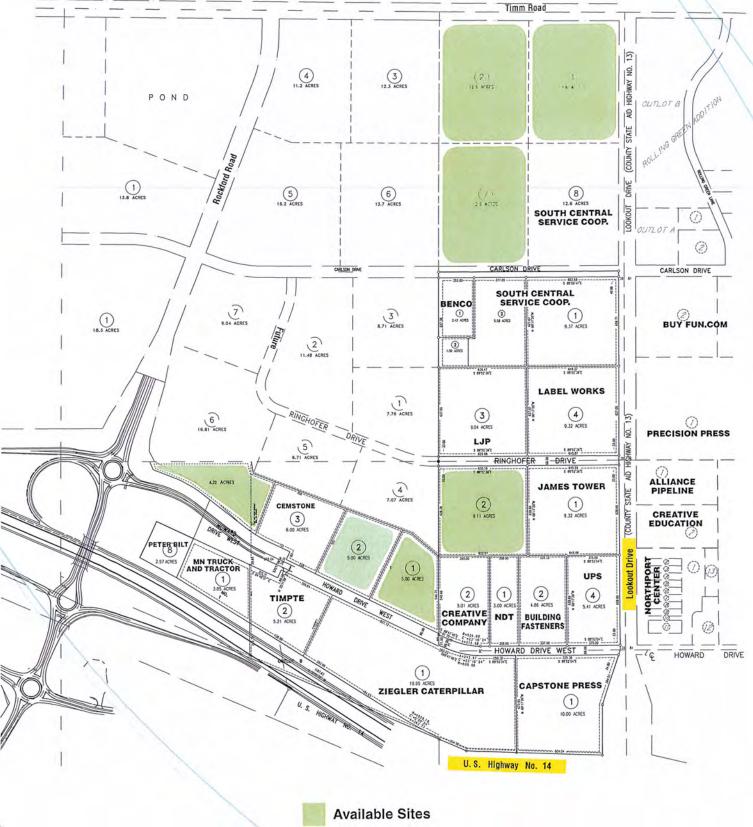


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