



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

JOINT OPERATIONS BOARD (OB) MEETING

AGENDA

11:00 a.m., May 11, 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 April 13, 2023
 2. Financial reports as of April 30, 2023
 3. Addition of new committee members:
 - a. Paul Bolle to the Broadband and Advanced Technology Committee
 4. Payment of invoices over \$2,500:
 - a. Achieve TFC Invoice No. 19-195-23.1 in the amount of \$4,422

- Accept:
- Committee/Subcommittee Minutes
1. Agriculture and Renewable Energy Development 3/16/2023
 2. Broadband and Advanced Technology 4/3/2023
 3. Finance 3/14/2023
 4. Marketing and Public Relations 3/27/2023
 5. Leisure Travel 3/6/2023

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

11:15 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. 2023-2026 Strategic Plan Aaron Backman
2. Willmar Lakes Area Convention & Visitors Bureau Funding . . Steve Gardner/Aaron Backman

11:45 NEW BUSINESS

1. BNSF Railway Certification Cost Estimates Aaron Backman

12:00 REPORTS

3. Economic Development Activity Jacob Kolander/Justice Walker/Leslie Valiant/
Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
4. Elevate Community Business Academy Sarah Swedburg
5. Updates on 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. Possible loan approval
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, June 8, 2023** at the Community Room of Heritage Bank, 310 First Street SW, Willmar, and via ZOOM video conference