



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## JOINT OPERATIONS BOARD (OB) MEETING

### AGENDA

11:00 a.m., November 9, 2023

Community Room, Heritage Bank, 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 October 19, 2023  
2. Financial reports as of October 31, 2023  
3. Childcare Forgivable Loans to Tracey Rogers in the amount of \$12,500.00 and to Nicole Tester in the amount of \$9,375.00 to be paid from childcare grant funds
- Accept: Committee/Subcommittee Minutes  
1. Business Retention and Expansion/Recruitment 6/14/2023  
2. Broadband and Advanced Technology 10/2/2023  
3. Industrial Hemp Exploratory Subcommittee 7/11/2023  
4. Marketing and Public Relations 9/25/2023

11:07 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA** . . . . . President Benson

#### 11:12 **NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2022 Audit . . . . . Scott Van Buren  
Westberg Eischens

#### 11:32 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. EDC Office Location . . . . . Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
2. EDC Rebranding . . . . . Kelsey Olson/Aaron Backman

**12:30 REPORTS**

1. Economic Development Activity . . . . . Leslie Valiant/Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
2. Elevate Community Business Academy . . . . . Sarah Swedburg
3. Child Care Economic Development Grant . . . . . Sarah Swedburg/Tanna Stucky

**12:45 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Agriculture and Renewable Energy Development . . . . . Noah Hultgren/Sarah Swedburg
  - a. Industrial Hemp Exploratory Subcommittee . . . . . Sarah Swedburg
2. Broadband and Advanced Technology . . . . . Jesse Gislason/Sarah Swedburg
3. Business Retention and Expansion/Recruitment . . . . . Les Heitke/Mary Warszynski/  
Steve Gardner/Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
4. Finance . . . . . Kelly TerWisscha/Aaron Backman/Sarah Swedburg
5. Marketing and Public Relations . . . . . Jesse Gislason/Kelsey Olson
6. Leisure Travel . . . . . 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, December 14, 2023** at the Community Room of Heritage Bank, 310 First Street SW, Willmar, and via ZOOM video conference