

**KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)  
DOING BUSINESS AS KANDIYOHI COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (KCED)  
JOINT POWERS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**July 8, 2024**

**Galleries 1 and 2, Willmar Conference Center, Willmar**

**Present:** Julie Asmus, Corky Berg, Vicki Davis, Steve Gardner, Roger Imdieke and Doug Reese

**Guests:** Kelsey Baker, Kandiyohi County Administrator; Liza Donabauer of DDA Human Resources, Inc.; Leslie Valiant, Willmar City Administrator; and Mary Warszynski, Joint Operations Board member

**Media:** Jennifer Kotila, West Central Tribune

**Secretarial:** Nancy Birkeland, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc.

Chairperson Steve Gardner called to order a special meeting of the Kandiyohi County and City of Willmar Economic Development Commission Joint Powers Board at approximately 5:44 p.m. Liza Donabauer of DDA Human Resources, Inc. referred to an email she sent to the board with background information on each of the candidates. Donabauer read the public feedback forms on each candidate that were completed by those who attended the Meet & Greet, bus tour and interviews. The questions asked were: 1. What are your general impressions of this candidate? 2. What strengths would this candidate bring to the Administrator position? 3. Describe how you believe this candidate would fit within the County and with partner organizations. 4. Provide other comments that could be helpful to the County Board in its deliberations.


Donabauer asked the board to do a ballot vote as to their first and second choice candidates and tallied the votes: Paul Borgerding received one second choice vote; Brianna Sanders received one first choice and two second choice votes; Jolene Foss received two first choice votes; and Patrick O'Rourke received four first choice and two second choice votes.

IT WAS MOVED BY Roger Imdieke, SECONDED BY Julie Asmus, to offer the position of Executive Director of the Kandiyohi County and City of Willmar Economic Development Commission to Patrick O'Rourke and to negotiate terms of employment. All present voted in favor unanimously by roll call.

At Donabauer's request a negotiating committee consisting of Chair Gardner and Vice Chair Vicki Davis was formed to assist her with the employment terms to present to O'Rourke. The EDC's attorney will be asked to review and approve any documents presented to O'Rourke.

IT WAS MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:20 p.m.

  
Julie Asmus, Secretary

APPROVED: 7/25/2024:

  
Steve Gardner, Chairperson