Minutes of the
ND Economic Development Foundation Meeting
February 21, 2018
Kadrmas Lee and Jackson Engineering
4585 Coleman Street, Bismarck ND

Members Present: Perry Miller, Kelly Rusch, Linda Butts, Mike Seminary, Rob Hovland, Jay Schuler, Erik Diederich, Chuck Hoge

Members Present Via Phone: Bruce Thom, Lyn James, Mark Nisbet, Danita Bye, Jared Melville, Kari Ness

Members Absent: Kyle Blanchfield, Craig Lambrecht, Tim Hennessy, Gene Veeder, Eric Trueblood, Jon Simmers, Tommy Kenville, Pamela Schmidt, Jim Traynor

Guests Present: Ellen Huber, Sandy McMerty, John Schneider, Jace Beehler, Brett Gurholt, Brad Krogstad, Jenny Krause, Emily Johnson, Sherri Frieze

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER
Rob Hovland, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
Rob Hovland welcomed members and guests, with introductions made around the room and on the phone.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Rob Hovland asked for a motion to approve the February 21, 2018 agenda.
Motion: Mike Seminary moved to approve, Perry Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Rob Hovland asked for a motion to approve the December 1, 2017 Quarterly Foundation Meeting Minutes.
Motion: Linda Butts moved to approve, Mike Seminary seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Quarterly Financial Statements
Sherri Frieze reported financial statements for:
- **Profit and Loss Statement**, October 1 – December 31, 2017 - net income of negative $959.14
- **Balance Sheet**, December 31 - balance of $232,657.83
- **Workforce Development Division’s Restricted Assets balance**, December 31 - $71,983.05
- **Statement of Cash Flows**, October 1 – December 31 - reflects a total of $232,657.83
- **Foundation’s current balance**, $160,674.78 with $69,343.00 remaining to spend on Find the Good Life $36,800 of FTGL funds are committed to the Houston DMA Media Strategy. Leaving $32,543.00 of uncommitted FTGL funds. The Foundation’s balance without FTGL funds is $91,331.78
Rob Hovland asked for a motion to approve the financial statements as presented.

Motion: Linda Butts moved to approve the financial statements as presented. Mike Seminary seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE UPDATE
Commerce Commissioner Report/Comments
Jay Schuler mentioned that Barry Batcheller has resigned his position from the Economic Development Foundation immediately, to focus more on an NDSU project. Jay and the Foundation members thank him for his service to the board. Jay then talked about efficiencies of Commerce programs that will be discussed with the Commerce Senior leadership team in the next few months. Discussion will include basic policies and budget fiduciary changes at the Commerce Department.

OLD BUSINESS
Find the Good Life in ND Update
Sandy McMerty mentioned that Sara Otte Coleman will discuss how FTGL campaign funds are being spent and other relative information at the next meeting. An update report on FTGL will be sent out with minutes from the meeting.

Strategic Plan – Futurist discussion
Sandy mentioned that due to conflicting schedules, it was not possible to have a futurist speak to the foundation, but a planned future presentation by Tony Richards, from Impact Dakota, will speak on what the future looks like in automation.

ND Rural Development Council (NDRDC)
The NDRDC, inactive for four years, has been reconvened to support the development of rural communities across the state through collaboration between government and the nonprofit and private sectors. The new members, to be announced in March will help vet ideas and thin about regional concepts to move Main Street Initiatives in rural communities. Deb Eslinger, Director for Center & Technology, will present on the NDRDC at the next meeting.

Foundation Metrics Update – Sandy McMerty – Appendix A
In discussion, Sandy asked the members to consider the targeted industries list, and are they still the right ones for ND, as the unmanned aerial systems sector has been a consideration for addition. Discussion to continue at the next meeting.

Sandy then asked the members to look at what we have done with the Strategic Plan to date, asking the members, to take a look for a move in a new direction. Plan A reflects the work done so far is the right direction; set new goals and measurements, or Plan B reflects moving forward and look at addition of more goals and measurements. In the year, 2010, incremental goals were adjusted up and as the model is changing, should adjustment be made towards technology, (biotechnology), and/or education.

John Schneider commented that when the Strategic Plan was developed; it was a statewide effort, involving business leaders to come up with these guiding principles. This plan has helped guide all branches, executive, legislative, and looking at the state; as a foundation board, this is the direction the state should be pointing.
WORKING LUNCH
Overview of Kadmas, Lee & Jackson
Brett Gurholt, Brad Krogstad, Jenny Krause and Emily Johnson of KLJ gave an overview of projects that the engineering company has worked on or is currently working on. Projects such as the Starion Sports Complex in Mandan, the Shiloh baseball/football field and track, Valley City public school sports field and track, and the Martinson bridge in Fort Ransom County. The company has evolved, adapted and transformed, becoming more efficient. That’s what has happened at KLJ at they approach their 80-year anniversary; a small company that started in the basement of the Stark County Courthouse. The company has 24 offices in the Midwest, two in Florida and one now opening in Denver, CO.

NEW BUSINESS
Main Street Summit Update – Jace Beehler, Policy Advisor, Governor’s Office
Jace gave an overview of the summit that took place on February 12 & 13 in Bismarck. The event was attended by 700 people, represented by 65 communities and streamlined online by 1,300. It was a gathering of local and national community development experts and advocates to share best practices and engage community leaders, entrepreneurs, students and interested citizens in envisioning North Dakota’s future. The Main Street ND Summit served as a forum for information on the community planning principles behind the three pillars of Burgum’s Main Street Initiative: a skilled workforce; smart, efficient infrastructure; and healthy, vibrant communities to help North Dakota compete in a 21st century economy in which rapid technological advancement is changing every job, industry and organization. Going forward, Jace recommended local communities to find support with private/public partnerships.

Value Added Agriculture – John Schneider, ED&F Director, Commerce Dept.
John talked about bringing value added agriculture to ND with projects that the Department of Commerce has worked with recently. The ED&F Department at Commerce forms alliances with companies to help them expand or start up in ND, John mentioned as he talked about those companies that have come from that.

Dakota Specialty Milling in Fargo company expansion, that used existing infrastructure, to double their footprint. ND Soy Processors is looking at the industrial park in Jamestown, utilizing steam from existing ethanol plant, with no burden to water or sewer. North Prairie Nitrogen plant will use the wastewater in east Grand Forks/Grand Forks, which will lower the cost of nitrogen. 28-acre Fish Farm, a completely enclosed green house that grows tomatoes, with the by product from fish.
Strategic Plan Update
It was discussed to add two words to fit with the Main Street Initiative.

- On page 2 of the DRAFT of the 5 Essential Strategies for Continued Growth, under the sixth added essential strategy, the two words, “financially sustainable” should be added after the word healthy.

- On page 5 of the DRAFT for GOAL 3, under the Expected Outcomes; Kelly commented that verbiage should be added. Jay and Kelly will propose language for the next meeting.

- On page 7 of the DRAFT for GOAL 4, under the Expected Outcomes, under the third outcome, the two words, “financially sustainable” should be added after the word healthy.

- Sandy commented that the Benchmarks in the DRAFT will need to be discussed at the next meeting.

Future Meeting
- Sherri Frieze will DOODLE POLL members by email, for the next meeting date to be held in May.

- Tony Richards will be invited to speak at a future meeting.

- Deb Eslinger will be invited to speak at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:
A motion was made by Eric Dietrich and seconded by Linda Butts to adjourn the meeting. Rob Hovland adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

_____________________________________________________________
Rob Hovland                                                                                           Date
Chairperson

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Sherri Frieze                                                                                             Date
Recording Secretary