

EDA Meeting Minutes



Regular Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 16th, 2017
3:00 p.m.
1st Flr. Bd. Rm.
Detroit Lakes, MN

Meeting called by:	Barry Nelson
Type of meeting:	Regular Meeting
Attendees:	Larry Knutson, Abby Anderson, Chris Sherman
Board members absent:	Hank Ludtke, Corey Askin
Other Attendees:	Jodi Oien, Amanda Parteka, Robin Beck, Tanya Hockett, Guy Fischer, Terry Kalil, Judd Syverson, Dan Sprague, Kirsten Suisten

Agenda Topics

1. **Call Meeting to order:** Barry Nelson called the regular meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Approval of Agenda:** motion to approve by Anderson, 2nd by Knutson –motion carried.
4. **Approval of February Meeting Minutes (2/16):** motion to approve by Knutson, 2nd by Sherman - motion carried.
5. **Housing:**
 - **Review financials and approve paying bills:** motion to approve by Knutson, 2nd by Anderson - motion carried.
 - From Check Register/Invoices Presented: Workshop \$1,204.77, Hwy 34 Group Home \$150.00, Low Income Public Housing \$15,821.67, Willow Property \$1,570.11, Maple Ave. Apts. \$7,438.69, Hidden Hills Group Home \$150.00, West River Townhomes \$11,715.03, and Section 8 Voucher \$0.0.
6. **EDA: Broadband Discussion with Century Link Representatives**

Century Link reps: Judd Syverson (eng.), Dan Sprague, and Kirsten Suisten (TC and Greater MN Rep.). Century Link is incumbent provider. CAF II (Connect America Funds) improvements centered in and around Detroit Lakes. CAF II is a 6 year program \$324 million secured for 73 Co. in State of MN. Aim is to drive fiber deeper into communities. Good news is that per our area improvements will help 15,500 customers achieve upgraded faster speeds. Anticipate spending approx. \$7 million in upgrades in the DL area. 2017 build slated for DL area. 110 miles of fiber placement.

Barry Nelson – consider using the \$250,000 the County will receive from wetland credits for the purpose of helping to provide for those who aren't being served. ID gaps/opportunities where this money could be leveraged as part of working with partners (Arvig and Century Link). Importance of broadband to economic development and attracting business. Also e- learning. Wondered about local hiring? CL did not yet know but anticipated that some local hiring will occur.

Other EDA topic areas briefly updated: Broadband mtg., Gary's furniture bldg., MN Housing Partnership (Housing Instit. Program begins May9th-10 at the Holiday Inn in DL, Audubon wind turbine project, Lake Access Improvements, Safe and Secure Courthouse Initiative Grant Application.
7. **Open Forum:**
8. **Adjourn:** Barry Nelson Knutson adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Guy Fischer
EDA Coordinator

/s/ Barry Nelson
EDA Board President

DRAFT